

May 2, 1963

Message, P.L. Bhandari, Embassy of India, Mexico City, 'A Nuclear-Free Zone for Latin America'

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Summary:

Mexico proposed that all Latin American countries ban the installations of nuclear bases on their soil.

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SECRET

FROM: P.L. Bhandari, Embassy of India, Mexico City
TO: Shri B. Sanyal, Director (W), Ministry of External Affairs
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SECRET
By Bag A

Subject: A Nuclear-Free Zone for Latin America

In my political report for December 1962, I mentioned that Mexico had proposed that all Latin American countries should cooperate in the signature of an arrangement banning the installations of nuclear bases on their soil. This proposal was made during the visit to Mexico of President Alessandri of Chile.

2. The Mexican President, Lopez Mateos, announced the other day that he had received a large measure of support for his proposal and that the Governments of Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, and Ecuador had declared their readiness immediately to sign a declaration to this effect. The Five Presidents have also invited the Chiefs of States of all Latin American countries not yet party to the agreement, urging their official support.

3. So far as I am aware, the anti-nuclear declaration was initiated by Mexico, although from press reports it would appear that Brazil is being mentioned as parent of the idea. It is probable, however, that Mexico and Brazil, separately and jointly, have worked towards bringing about the present agreement...