

States were embodied in what is known as the Spanish-Large Federal Relations Act. On December 15 the people of Puerto Rico accepted the terms of compact and within the framework created their Commonwealth. Congress ratified the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The Commonwealth is now a fact accomplished. It has been for 4 years. Today the people of Puerto Rico celebrate the fourth anniversary of their Commonwealth. I think we must congratulate them for their achievement. I think we should be proud of their achievements. The people of Puerto Rico have now as much control over their own political life as the people of any State of the Union. With few exceptions, the laws of the United States apply in Puerto Rico equally as if Puerto Rico were a member State of the Union.

The Commonwealth is indeed unique in our national system. The Spanish language lacking one word which would be the exact equivalent of Commonwealth, the Puerto Ricans call themselves an "Estado Libre Asociado." Translated into English this would mean a "Free Associated State." This is indeed a true description of their status. They have not been admitted into the Union, but they are associated in the Union in a manner compatible with its Federal nature. And thus in spite of distance, in spite of dissimilar historical origins and cultures, a firm bond of common interests and a deep understanding has been established between the people of Puerto Rico and the people of the United States. This bond has been established and consecrated. Thus we practice what we preach in advocating freedom for all peoples. I believe it fitting to bring these facts to the attention of the Senate. I believe that the fact that Puerto Rico has so uneventfully attained the political status of its people's wishes, that they are enjoying freedom to securely in association with the United States, which but help cement the sentiments of solidarity and cooperation so necessary for the entire Western Hemisphere in its determination to maintain these ideals, presented to mankind by the genius of Columbus, as the bulwark of freedom, democracy, and peace, lands beloved by free peoples who base their political principles in the unwavering respect for the dignity of man.

Iraq Celebrates 24th Anniversary of Independence

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. ADAM C. POWELL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 1953

Mr. POWELL. Mr. Speaker, when I came back from the Bandung Conference, I announced that I would address the United States Congress each time there was an anniversary of independence of one of the 49 participating nations in the Asian-African Conference on friendly relations with the United States.

Congress will not be in session when Iraq celebrates her 24th anniversary of independence on October 3, 1953. Hence, I wish to take this opportunity today to salute the people of Iraq. His Majesty King Faisal I, and His Excellency, Moustafa Al-Raschidi, Ambassador of Iraq, in honor of his mission.

The day Iraq was admitted to the League of Nations was a full 50 years and

sovereign" member. October 3, 1932, marks the beginning of her era of independence. The Iraqi political background for that momentous event tells the familiar story of imperialism and colonialism. In the words of Mr. Adnan Pachaoui, Secretary of the Embassy of Iraq:

Prior to the first World War Iraq was an integral part of the Ottoman Empire. As a result of the war and the disintegration of that Empire Iraq was placed under British mandate in accordance with article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations. The Iraqis who had hoped to gain independence after the overthrow of Ottoman rule were naturally disappointed with the arrangement and revolted in 1930. As a result of that revolt the British Government agreed to the establishment of an national government with a wide measure of local autonomy. However, through negotiations lasting 3 years, Iraq under the wise guidance of His Majesty King Faisal I was able to terminate the mandate and gain for it full independence. In 1930 a treaty of friendship and alliance was concluded by which the British Government recognized the independence and sovereignty of Iraq and undertook to sponsor its application for membership in the League of Nations. When the Assembly of the League unanimously approved the admission of Iraq on October 3, 1932, Iraq became a fully independent and sovereign nation.

Since independence the people of Iraq have continuously devoted considerable efforts in the complex area of economic development with a view toward bettering conditions and raising living standards. In this connection a generous portion of the Nation's revenues has been earmarked for economic improvement: new irrigation canals and ditches have been built; thousands of pumps have been installed along the riverbanks to supply water to the adjacent lowland. However, much remains to be done and other long term projects are planned which will eventually raise the level of living of the people.

The Great Circle Route to the Orient

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. CARL HINSHAW

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 1953

Mr. HINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, on March 29, 1953, the California delegation, comprising 36 Members of the Congress, instructed a subcommittee to draw up its statement of position of the California delegation concerning its great interest in the Great Circle Route case. Following is the complete statement:

CALIFORNIA OF THE UNITED STATES.

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C., March 29, 1953.
The President,

The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President: No doubt you have examined the Pacific from a global viewpoint and are well aware of the fact that a great circle route in one hemisphere the entire

Pacific Ocean and Antarctica and in the remaining hemisphere the most of the land mass of the world. On that great circle are Singapore, Taipei, Tokyo, Dutch Harbor, San Francisco and Los Angeles, Lima and Buenos Aires. The shortest route from Panama to Manila skirts the Pacific Sea. It is to great circles that we must look for our air commerce routes, and that particular great circle connects our Pacific port cities with those of the Orient and Latin America.

That is why some days ago the Members of Congress representing the State of California met and unanimously agreed that we should present to you our considered judgment that the sound economic development of our State requires that the restrictions on Pan American World Airways' trans-Pacific route be not reimposed so that it may operate between our Pacific ports and the Orient over the great circle route.

We in California believe that with the great new long-range aircraft, we should have an opportunity to fly directly on the great circle route to the Orient and not be obliged, as we now are to travel a needless and time-consuming extra 1,338 miles over the central Pacific. This is not only an unnecessary imposition upon people in California, but constitutes a heavy burden upon the taxpayers of the Nation when they are required to pay for the subsidy needed when passengers and mail are carried over the longer central Pacific route.

We are concerned with any further delay that would be incurred by a needless continuance of the restrictions which in their last temporary certificate, now up for review, prevented Pan American from operating a service between Tokyo, Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, and on to Latin America. Such an operation would provide a service over the direct route from Japan to the United States, connecting in California with established American-flag services to Latin America. The Canadians are now operating a competing route from the Orient over the Great Circle to Vancouver and on to Latin America. Routes connecting the Orient with Latin America over the Great Circle are important world trade routes with all of the economic, political, and military considerations which are involved. We in California feel strongly that we should have a competitive American-flag service.

In your letter to Acting Chairman Gurney of the Civil Aeronautics Board of February 1, 1953, you said, "I desire to hold in abeyance my decision concerning the use of the Great Circle route by Pan American pending further study and later report on the economic and technical feasibility and the military and foreign policy implications of nonstop service between the west coast and the Orient."

In view of the wide interest of California in this matter and the broad national interest considerations which are involved, the California congressional delegation met and authorized the undersigned subcommittee respectfully to urge that you reach a decision which will permit Pan American to fly the entire Great Circle above described, which she has long been prepared to do. Obviously, fair play dictates that the permission extend for the same 7-year period which you recently fixed in renewing Northwest Pacific certificate.

Respectfully yours,

Carl Hinshaw,
Chairman, U. S. California Delegation,
Carl Kree,
John Shelley,
William Matlock,
Charles Trague,
Subcommittee Members.

Mr. Speaker, I am now in receipt of a telegram from Mr. A. O. Beckman, president, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles, Calif., supporting the

alien and the Government. It will remove the alien from the handicap resulting from leaving and reentering the United States. It will also greatly simplify the naturalization of the law.

The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. A. FERNÓS-ISERN

RESIDENT COMMISSIONER FROM PUERTO RICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 1955

Mr. FERNÓS-ISERN. Mr. Speaker, with justified pride, I address myself on this occasion to the House of Representatives of the United States. Three years ago on the 25th of July of 1952, the flag of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was raised for the first time on the occasion of the inauguration of the new regime which had begun for the people of Puerto Rico. For the first time in their history, they were living under a constitution of their own adoption. Thus the people of Puerto Rico had organized themselves as a free, self-governing body politic with sovereign powers in all matters not reserved under the terms of a solemn compact to the Government of the United States.

The people of Puerto Rico became then citizens of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, but that did not alter the fact that they were and continued to be loyal citizens of the United States.

The relationships between the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Federal Government albeit parallel are not equal to those of a State of the Union but via a via the Federal Government, but the significance for the people of Puerto Rico of the creation of the Commonwealth was the same as for the people of an incorporated Territory who attain the dignity of statehood.

The creation of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was the culmination of a series of events which evolved during the span of half a century and which began only in the century with the recognition of the existence of unincorporated Territories within the United States political system, areas and peoples who are subject to the sovereignty of the United States, but who, according to decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, "constitutionally are not an integral part of the United States."

A projection parallel to that of incorporated Territories toward statehood, was then marked for the unincorporated areas. It has led the peoples of those areas into a status of association, by mutual consent, with full enjoyment of self-government and without loss of common citizenship, common defense, and common protection.

As history teaches us, seed of future events lies buried and unrecognized in past events. Looking now in the perspective of half a century, considering the geographical location of Puerto Rico, its demographic and cultural traits, the smallness of its geographical limits, the

density of its population, the lack of natural resources, the high aspirations of its people, it is seen that, from the very point of that Supreme Court decision, all these factors indicated and led by gradual steps, inexorably, towards a formula which would give the people of Puerto Rico the dignity of freedom they craved together with the security which they needed if they were to exist, and could not have in isolation.

And so, after 30 years of what might be called the fermentation of thinking and the distillation of ideas, there evolved in the minds of the people of Puerto Rico the happy solution, within which they could attain the status of political dignity to which they could aspire without the sacrifice of their identity and prosperity.

Thus, with the overwhelming support of the people of Puerto Rico and with the cordial cooperation of the Government of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was born 3 years ago.

I shall eternally be thankful that it devolved upon me to bring the expression of the aspirations of the people of Puerto Rico before the consideration of Congress, when I introduced, in H. R. 2074, on March 13, 1946, which became Public Law 690 of the 81st Congress, establishing the compact and authorizing the creation of the Commonwealth.

I wish be thankful again that I had the honor to preside over the Constitutional Convention of Puerto Rico from September 1951 to January 1952, and that again I was privileged to introduce the joint resolution which became Public Law 447 of the 82d Congress, ratifying the Constitution of Puerto Rico.

I shall live eternally thankful to the Congress that both in 1950 and in 1952 almost unanimously adopted both pieces of legislation.

My legislative duties have not allowed me to be in Puerto Rico today to participate with my people in the anniversary they feel mindful of the fact that on the very same date that we celebrate the anniversary of the landing of United States troops in Puerto Rico, an event which took place on the 25th of July of 1898 under the command of Gen. Nelson A. Miles. That was the beginning of the association of the people of Puerto Rico with their fellow citizens of the United States.

But the fact that I cannot be today in Puerto Rico is amply compensated for by the fact that I can be here today with my colleagues of the House, to whom I am so deeply indebted for their spirit of generosity, fairness, and kindness toward the people of Puerto Rico.

I have had the honor of speaking, in the name of the United States, since the corresponding committee of the United Nations, when the status of Puerto Rico was there considered, as an alternate delegate of the United States. I presented there the reasons why the United States was justified in asking to report to the United Nations on Puerto Rico, as provided under the charter for dependent areas, since Puerto Rico had ceased to be a dependent area.

I found opposition there from such sources as naturally would be expected, but I found there the support, the understanding, and the applause for the United States and for Puerto Rico from the majority of the peoples there represented. The majority of the peoples of the New World, who speak the same language as the people of Puerto Rico and who have with the people of Puerto Rico a common origin and a common cultural heritage—especially did they express their deep satisfaction with the action taken by the United States.

Let me also mention of the South American continent, of the Caribbean islands of Central America, with few exceptions, all of which supported the United States in its decision. The reason I heard for the United States and for what the United States had done for Puerto Rico made me proud to be a citizen of the United States, and proud that the United States received those expressions of approval and best recognition on the occasion of having done justice to Puerto Rico.

The association of the people of Puerto Rico and the people of the United States is based now on a compact, on legal documents, as it should be. But it has much more solid and much deeper basis. It is based on warmer relationships, on common history, on common devotion to common principles.

The blood of Puerto Rico's youth flows in Korea for the same principle and under the same colors as the blood of the other youth from the 48 States which form this Nation. To the credit of Puerto Rico is that for a very large number of those young men who there died and died did not so there because they were called to duty under provisions of law, but because they volunteered of their own accord to do their duty.

Mr. Speaker, let me express my thought that the existence and development of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is a credit to the people of Puerto Rico and it is a credit to the people of the United States. Let me express my faith in the principles that have united us so firmly. Let me express my certainty that the association of the people of Puerto Rico to our mainland fellow citizens shall remain forever as firm as it is today.

Farmers' Home Administration Makes Progress in Assisting Family-Type Farmers

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. WILLIAM S. HILL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 1955

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, about a year ago I took occasion to call your attention to an agency in the United States Department of Agriculture, the Farmers' Home Administration, where some remarkable improvements have been made under the Eisenhower administration.