

today, recognize no barrier to continued progress.

The people of Puerto Rico have shown a remarkable capacity to adjust themselves to changing conditions and circumstances; for making a practical appraisal of, and for taking appropriate action to meet, these circumstances and conditions. Because of the small size of their island and because of its very limited natural resources, they realized that isolation and separation from the United States was not in their best interest. On the other hand, because of their geographical position, 1,000 miles from Miami and 1,500 miles from New York, because of their cultural background, because they are a fully developed people by themselves, admission into the United States Union was not considered the most favorable way to maintain bonds of union with the United States. They brought us a formula conceived in the principles of freedom, democracy, and self-government, unique in the annals of our political system. In accordance with this formula, their bond with the United States does not mean incorporation into the Union, but rather an association with the Union by solemn compact. Of course, it is not separation. Under the aegis of a common citizenship, they maintain a voluntary association with the United States. Thus, they have created their Commonwealth, their free state, with a constitution of their own adoption. They exercise the right of decision in all matters of their everyday life, while free United States, with their consent, performing relative to Puerto Rico, the same functions as it does in the States of the Union.

In a little over a decade, Puerto Rico's gross national product has climbed more than 300 percent, while wages and salaries have risen some 400 percent. Basic to such progress has been the cultivation of outside capital and the modernizing of ancient agricultural methods. Four hundred new factories and a large number of agrarian programs have been put into operation since the epochal year 1947, when the entire economy of the island began to be revitalized and enlarged with the institution of the Commonwealth constitution.

This veritable industrial revolution, with its attendant beneficial effects on housing, education, and other social factors, has transformed Puerto Rico from the poorhouse of the Western World to a showcase of democracy. It is enormously significant that thousands of visitors from some four score foreign lands have studied the Puerto Rican way to a better life under the United States technical-assistance program. It is safe to assume that these observers will give the lie to Communist propaganda.

Four years ago the flag of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was raised to the top of the mast in Puerto Rico to fly alongside the Stars and Stripes. Both flags flying together are a symbol of a noble association.

We are proud of the Puerto Rican people and their efforts to reach a higher station in life. We should continue to help them as much as we can in their

unemployment problem, heretofore extensive and appalling. They are trying to create new opportunities so that they will not have to leave their homeland to make a living. They are developing industrially.

The greater the interest and encouragement on the part of the people of the United States in pointing the way for Puerto Rico to achieve higher standards of living, the greater an asset Puerto Rico will be as an associate—both politically and economically. Thus, the greater would be the prestige of the United States before the world, especially before our good neighbors below the border who are kinsmen of Puerto Rican people.

In conclusion, Mr. President, I should like to take this opportunity to extend to the people of Puerto Rico my heartfelt congratulations for having made such an excellent selection in choosing their official representatives. Resident Commissioner A. Ferra's-Issac, their representative in the Congress since 1947, has done an outstanding and effective job in presenting to the Congress the many problems affecting Puerto Rico. His sincerity of purpose and sterling character have been indelibly imprinted upon every Member of Congress, without exception. Though he has no vote, he has frequently stated to me that he has the votes of 435 Members of the House of Representatives and 96 votes in the Senate of the United States. His activities on behalf of the Puerto Rican people have, on more than one occasion, amply demonstrated the correctness of this statement. As many of us here in the Congress will recall, it was he who was chairman of the constitutional convention which drafted the constitution of Puerto Rico. It was he who was chosen as a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations when the President of the United States informed the United Nations of Puerto Rico's self-governing status. In his official capacity, as a representative of the people of Puerto Rico, he has justly earned the admiration and respect of every Member in both Houses of the Congress. His warm personality has endeared him to all of us, and I, for one, hope that the people of Puerto Rico will see fit to retain such a worthy representative in the public service for many long years to come. His great contribution to our cause and the cause of the Puerto Rican people is incalculable.

In Gov. Luis Muñoz Marín, Puerto Rico has an equally outstanding citizen. As chief executive, he has unquestionably performed outstanding public service in their behalf. He is, in fact, a great leader. It was during his administration that successful efforts were made in industrializing Puerto Rico so that more people could obtain more jobs, which in turn provided them with an increased standard of living. The people of Puerto Rico and the people of the United States owe to him an everlasting debt of gratitude for the great public service which he has, and is, rendering. The record of progress which already has been made under his administration is one to which we can all take just pride.

It was through the leadership of these men that Puerto Rico has advanced, and is continuing to advance, under a truly self-governing associated status with the United States.

On this the fourth anniversary of its self-governing status, I am confident that the Congress and the people of the United States join with me in extending to the people of Puerto Rico best wishes for continued success and Godspeed.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record at this point an article entitled "The Puerto Rican," which was written by Bill Baggs, one of our State's most humorous, and, at the same time, most effective and excellent reporters. This serious column about Puerto Rico is most informative, and deserves the attention of all Members of the Senate.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

THE PUERTO RICAN
(By Bill Baggs)

(There are 3,000,000 people from Puerto Rico or of Puerto Rican descent living among us in this country. Each one is a citizen of the United States. Probably the Puerto Rican is the poorest understood citizen of our country. These notes are made on the eve of the fourth anniversary of the island becoming a full and free partner in the United States.)

Perhaps no people on earth have taken such giant steps toward democracy and its economic blessings in the past 10 years as the Puerto Ricans.

For 400 years the island was ruled by Spain and for 50 years by the United States.

Ten years ago the lack of sanitary and educational facilities would have shocked the most backward section of the continental United States. Today, you can almost see civilization climbing into the spectacular, green limestone hills and the mountains beyond.

INDUSTRY COMES

Essentially the problem of Puerto Rico is over-population. It is one of the most densely populated places in the world. In Florida, on average it is 51 people per square mile. In Puerto Rico the statistic is 649 per square mile.

The land is fertile. Testimony of the rich soil is given by the fine tobacco crop, sugar, coffee, a number of vegetables. Irrigation is needed. Modern agricultural technique is needed. To balance the economy, industry is needed.

In recent years industry has rolled into Puerto Rico like a high, continuing tide. One may observe the strong hand it places on the economy. A great discovery has come with industry: The Puerto Rican is a magnificent industrial worker. This is especially so wherein sugarwork in industry is required. The Puerto Rican has long, thin fingers with a grand dexterity.

MIXED UPON

Overpopulation pushes the Puerto Rican into the continental United States, mostly. It appears, in New York and Miami, and there have mushroomed anti-Puerto Rican feelings among people in this country. This possibly was inevitable.

Many are the Puerto Ricans who come with little education and no money to compete in the cities of the United States. They are preyed upon by the politician in many instances. Among us are people who take great economic advantage of the Puerto Rican. It is not difficult to do.

One must travel to the island, back into the country, where the liberal or countryman,

States were embodied in what is known as the Puerto Rico Federal Relations Act.

Overwhelmingly the people of Puerto Rico accepted the terms of compact and within its framework created their Commonwealth. Congress ratified the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The Commonwealth is now a fait accompli. 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 achievement. 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 to Puerto Rico exactly as if Puerto Rico were a member State of the Union.

The Commonwealth is indeed unique in our political 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 "Free Associated State." This is indeed a true description of their status. They have not been admitted to the Union, but they are associated to 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 loyalties and allegiances between the people of Puerto Rico and the people of the United States has been established and cemented. 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 in security in association with the United States, cannot but help cement the sentiments of solidarity and cooperation necessary for the entire Western Hemisphere in its determination to maintain these lands, presented to mankind by the genius of Columbus, as the bulwark of freedom, democracy, and peace, widely followed by free people who base their political principles in the unswerving respect for the dignity of man.

Iraq Celebrates 24th Anniversary of Independence

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

HON. ADAM C. POWELL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 1956

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 29 participating nations in the Asian-African Conference on friendly relations with the United States.

Congress will not be in session when Iraq celebrates the 24th anniversary of independence on October 3, 1956, hence, I wish to take this opportunity today to salute the people of Iraq, His Majesty King Faisal I, and His Excellency Mountbatten Al-Shibandar, Ambassador of Iraq in honor of this occasion.

The day Iraq was admitted to the League of Nations as a full-fledged and

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

Ever since 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 9 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 continually 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

HON. CARL HINSHAW

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 1956

Mr. HINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, on March 29, 1955, the California delegation, comprising 30 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:

Committee on the Oregon Issues,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C., March 29, 1955.

The Passenger,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

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

Pacific Ocean and Asia-Pacific, and in the remaining hemisphere lies 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 Herring Sea. It is in 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 unambiguously 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 triplicated 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 1,234 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, reserved 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 service 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, 1956, 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 route described, which she has long been prepared to do. Obviously, fair play dictates that the period of nonstop service for the same 3-year period which you recently fixed in denying Northwest Pacific certificate.

Respectfully yours,
Carl Hinshaw,
Chairman, The California Delegation,
Carl King,
John Shelley,
William Matthews,
Charles Tramm,
Subcommittee Members.

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