

Extract from Ambassador Luigi R. Einaudi's Statement
Before the OAS Permanent Council
June 27, 1990

When I first joined the Permanent Council, Ambassador Edmundo Haya de la Torre welcomed me in the name of the group of Rio. When I responded, I said that my objective as the U.S. Permanent Representative to the OAS would be to follow the principle of "interamericanismo democratico sin imperio" -- the concept popularized by his brother Victor Raul, the great Peruvian and continental leader. In the months since then, I have come to know Ambassador Haya as a strong believer in democracy and human rights and as a consistent advocate of the characteristic Peruvian position that we need an improved "social contract" among the countries of the Americas as well as within them.

Ambassador Haya leaves now because earlier this month, despite terrorist threats, Peruvians went to the polls in significant numbers and cast their votes, giving a clear mandate to a new government.

The popular will of the Peruvian people, as expressed in those elections, merits both our congratulations and our respect. It is extremely impressive and bodes well for the future of democracy and for the future of Peru.

So it is in the non-partisan spirit of "interamericanismo democratico sin imperio" that I salute my friend, the departing representative of the Government of Peru and underscore the great interest of the United States in cooperating with the new government of President-elect Fujimori and its new representatives.