

ulation not existing at all. And here is the error of their proposal.

Now the problem has gone beyond the social and become political. I believe that Central America, for example, has right now gone way beyond the political. The problem of Central America is neither the guerrilla, nor who is financing him. The problem is the tremendous social and economic injustice that causes violence. To the extent that we want to end the violence only by political means or worse, by military means, then we will be providing no solution to the problem.

Central America and the Caribbean are terribly economically depressed sectors. . . . Therefore it is essential for those, like ourselves, who want to see some prospect of solutions in Central America, to understand that any political solution—which there clearly must be—must carry with it policies of action in the social and economic arena. If these are not forthcoming, the political solution will not last and violence will arise once again. This is fundamental; we don't believe in an armed solution. Armed solutions could have very serious repercussions for all of Latin America and for humanity.

Quijano: In few words, then, Ecuador supports Contadora?

Roldos: We support Contadora, but we feel that it must go much further.

Foreign Minister Luis Valencia

'Integration to end vulnerability'

The following are excerpts of an interview conducted with Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodríguez on Sept. 1, 1983 by EIR President Fernando Quijano.

Quijano: Mr. Foreign Minister, President Hurtado will be visiting the United Nations around September 29. Can you tell us what Ecuador's policy will be before the United Nations?

Valencia: President Hurtado has received an invitation from the Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Gandhi, in fulfillment of a recommendation adopted during the Seventh Summit Meeting of Chiefs of States and Governments [of the Non-Aligned Movement] . . . which proposed that various leaders of the Third World be invited to meet in New York for the next General Assembly of the United Nations to discuss the general problems of the world and not only the problems of the

United Nations but principally those aspects which most concern the developing nations. . . . What will be most interesting will be the contact made among the chiefs of state that will be present for the General Assembly to discuss the most difficult problems facing the Third World, such as the serious international economic crisis, the implications of that crisis for the less developed countries, the possibility of South-South cooperation to prevent these consequences, the urgent necessity to establish a better North-South dialogue toward establishing a New International Economic Order, to avoid—or at least to lessen—world tensions which are those which most worry the developing countries.

Quijano: Recently it has been said in the United States by the Council of the Americas and also by economist Alan Greenspan, that the Third World resources should be turned into equity property of creditors as a means of solving the current crisis. What answer would the Group of Santo Domingo have to this type of proposal?

Valencia: In Santo Domingo we studied a document prepared by the SELA-ECLA [Latin American Economic System/U.N. Commission on Latin America] in response to President Hurtado's call for establishing solid initiatives or proposals to overcome the economic crisis in Latin America. Among the more fundamental aspects of those proposals is the need to end Latin America's vulnerability in the economic arena. At the same time, it also determined that encouraging integration and cooperation was a categorical imperative. If cooperation and integration could be developed in the future, I believe that this would be the most effective answer that Latin America could give. One cannot return to old, historically outmoded schemes, but [must employ] effective cooperation among the nations of the world, and principally among those nations whose economies are complementary, so that the hopes of the Third World for a New International Economic Order can be fulfilled. Without this genuine and effective cooperation, every program will fail. I do not believe that this is the historic moment to return to schemes or situations that have already been superseded.

Quijano: The Minister of Foreign Relations of El Salvador was here recently. We would like to know Ecuador's position on the Central American conflict and the Contadora group, and what other efforts could be taken by the Contadora group or by your country to resolve that conflict?

Valencia: . . . Ecuador has declared its position: that the Central American problem is fundamentally a response to the great socio-economic inequalities among the countries of the region. Therefore, if one seeks a permanent solution to that crisis, it is necessary to confront these problems of socio-economic inequality. On the other hand, the basic principle of inter-American coexistence—that is, mutual respect among states, non-intervention, peaceful solutions to controversies, non-use of force in international relations and the principal

of self-determination—must be rigorously respected. . . . With respect to non-intervention, we have categorically stated that Ecuador hopes the intervention of foreign powers in the Central American region will cease. Be it political or military intervention, direct or indirect. It is necessary to leave the Central American people to find themselves a negotiated political solution, counting for this on their Latin American sister nations. . . . Ecuador has stood behind this by giving its fullest support to the efforts of Contadora. It is true that up until now, a permanent solution to the problem has not been found. I believe that each day that passes without a warlike confrontation in the region can be counted as a victory for Contadora and the countries which support it. If the Contadora group had not existed, think about it for a moment, it is possible that we would already have had a war of vast dimensions, with repercussions not only in Central America but throughout the continent and possibly throughout the world.

Quijano: During the period that Mr. Kissinger was Secretary of State, there was a group of the Rand Corporation under Luigi Einaudi, which formulated a scenario for the region which we call "A Proposal for a Second War of the Pacific." This document describes every possible sort of conflict as a policy to try to keep a certain control over the region. Ecuador is a key country in all this, because it has had con-

flicts with Peru. What is Ecuador's position regarding this scenario?

Valencia: In the first place, as is known, there are many still unresolved territorial disputes in Latin America, as for example the boundary dispute between Ecuador and Peru, Bolivia's situation with Chile and Peru, the situation between Argentina and Chile, and many other such problems. What is fundamental, as I have said many times, is that solutions to these problems be found because while they continue to exist attempts may be made to revive them, not only from inside our own countries but also from outside—which is much more dangerous—with the result that situations will be created incompatible with inter-American solidarity and co-existence. Thus the first task concerning other countries . . . is to realistically face the problems which still exist among our countries. To seek solutions or at least channel them toward a peaceful solution and thus to guarantee that all these initiatives, rumors, and proposals have no reason to exist. Thus, when that rumor of "a second war of the Pacific" emerged, Ecuador was categorical in reaffirming the basic principals of . . . non-use of force, peaceful solutions to differences, and non-recognition of territory gained by force. On this basis, it is possible for our countries to respond to the needs of our people and to find solutions to their problems that are just, honorable and equitable and which answer to the needs of the world in which we live.

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