

in Brazil, that one of the proposals that was made was a much greater flow back and forth between the intellectual, artistic, and cultural life, which is a sign of the vitality of a society, between North and South America.

I think that too often we are, in a sense, as General de Gaulle has said, the daughter of Europe, and our view on these matters which affect the life of the spirit really, looks more to Europe and not enough to the south. And it seems to me also true that Latin America looks to Europe for its inspiration in these areas and not to North America.

This side of our national life, I think, has been too little known outside of our country. But I think in music, architecture, art, writing, all the rest, we've had a good deal of life and vitality in this country in recent years, and this is also true of Latin America.

So I'm glad now, instead of our all looking to the East, which we must on many occasions, that we now look north and we look south. And we hope from this current back

and forth there will be greater stimulation.

We don't want to see the artistic and intellectual life used as a weapon in a cold war struggle, but we do feel that it's an essential part of the whole democratic spirit.

So, I'm very glad to have you here as symbols and also as active participants in this life and most of all because the artist necessarily must be a free man.

So we welcome you here to the White House. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke in the Rose Garden at the White House.

The Symposium brought together Latin American and North American artists, musicians, architects, etc., for the purpose of exchanging ideas on the arts and belles-lettres and of discussing better ways to coordinate cultural activities in the Americas. The Symposium was held at Nassau under the auspices of Show Magazine, whose editor, Robert Wool, conceived the idea and developed it to its actuality. It is intended to be an annual affair.

The Latin American members, to whom the President spoke, came to Washington after the Nassau meeting for the opening of an exhibit of modern Latin American art at the Pan American Union.

514 Message to Mrs. Niels Bohr Upon the Death of Her Husband.

November 20, 1962

I AM deeply saddened by the news of the death of Dr. Bohr. The scientists of the United States, and indeed all Americans, who knew him and his accomplishments, have held him in the highest respect for more than two generations. His great achievements in the quantum theory of the atom have been basic to modern advances in physical science. The scientific inspiration he

brought in his many visits to this country, and especially his great services at Los Alamos during the war, leave us forever in his debt.

Please accept my condolences and deepest sympathy.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

[Mrs. Niels Bohr, Copenhagen, Denmark]

515 The President's News Conference of

November 20, 1962

THE PRESIDENT. I have several statements.

[1.] I have today been informed by Chairman Khrushchev that all of the IL-28 bombers now in Cuba will be withdrawn in 30 days. He also agrees that these planes can be observed and counted as they leave. In-

asmuch as this goes a long way towards reducing the danger which faced this hemisphere 4 weeks ago, I have this afternoon instructed the Secretary of Defense to lift our naval quarantine.

In view of this action, I want to take this

opportunity to bring up to date on the Cuban progress made through the understandings between Khrushchev and myself. In my letters of October 27 to Khrushchev, it will be recalled that I requested the removal from Cuba of all offensive weapons capable of offensive use, the introduction of such weapons, and to permit appropriate observation and supervision of the carrying out and compliance with these commitments. We on our part had had these adequate arrangements had been established in the event of a naval quarantine and in the event of an invasion of Cuba.

The evidence to date that known offensive weapons have been dismantled, that associated equipment has been removed from Soviet ships. And these departing ships have a number of missiles. The United States Union as having information which closely corroborates this information, has now been provided to the Soviet Government. The Soviet Government nuclear weapons have been removed from Cuba and no offensive weapons have been introduced.

Nevertheless, in the event of a standing of October 27, it is to be carried out. It has not yet permitted to verify whether all offensive weapons have been removed, and have yet been established in the event of an introduction of offensive weapons to Cuba.

Consequently, it is to continue to remove offensive weapons, this is to pursue its military activities of our continued identification of our identification of Soviet ground

opportunity to bring the American people up to date on the Cuban crisis and to review the progress made thus far in fulfilling the understandings between Soviet Chairman Khrushchev and myself as set forth in our letters of October 27 and 28. Chairman Khrushchev, it will be recalled, agreed to remove from Cuba all weapons systems capable of offensive use, to halt the further introduction of such weapons into Cuba, and to permit appropriate United Nations observation and supervision to insure the carrying out and continuation of these commitments. We on our part agreed that once these adequate arrangements for verification had been established we would remove our naval quarantine and give assurances against an invasion of Cuba.

The evidence to date indicates that all known offensive missile sites in Cuba have been dismantled. The missiles and their associated equipment have been loaded on Soviet ships. And our inspection at sea of these departing ships has confirmed that the number of missiles reported by the Soviet Union as having been brought into Cuba, which closely corresponded to our own information, has now been removed. In addition, the Soviet Government has stated that all nuclear weapons have been withdrawn from Cuba and no offensive weapons will be re-introduced.

Nevertheless, important parts of the understanding of October 27th and 28th remain to be carried out. The Cuban Government has not yet permitted the United Nations to verify whether all offensive weapons have been removed, and no lasting safeguards have yet been established against the future introduction of offensive weapons back into Cuba.

Consequently, if the Western Hemisphere is to continue to be protected against offensive weapons, this Government has no choice but to pursue its own means of checking on military activities in Cuba. The importance of our continued vigilance is underlined by our identification in recent days of a number of Soviet ground combat units in Cuba, al-

though we are informed that these and other Soviet units were associated with the protection of offensive weapons systems, and will also be withdrawn in due course.

I repeat, we would like nothing better than adequate international arrangements for the task of inspection and verification in Cuba, and we are prepared to continue our efforts to achieve such arrangements. Until that is done, difficult problems remain. As for our part, if all offensive weapons systems are removed from Cuba and kept out of the hemisphere in the future, under adequate verification and safeguards, and if Cuba is not used for the export of aggressive Communist purposes, there will be peace in the Caribbean. And as I said in September, "we shall neither initiate nor permit aggression in this hemisphere."

We will not, of course, abandon the political, economic, and other efforts of this hemisphere to halt subversion from Cuba nor our purpose and hope that the Cuban people shall some day be truly free. But these policies are very different from any intent to launch a military invasion of the island.

In short, the record of recent weeks shows real progress and we are hopeful that further progress can be made. The completion of the commitment on both sides and the achievement of a peaceful solution to the Cuban crisis might well open the door to the solution of other outstanding problems.

May I add this final thought in this week of Thanksgiving: there is much for which we can be grateful as we look back to where we stood only 4 weeks ago—the unity of this hemisphere, the support of our allies, and the calm determination of the American people. These qualities may be tested many more times in this decade, but we have increased reason to be confident that those qualities will continue to serve the cause of freedom with distinction in the years to come.

[2.] Secondly, I would also like to announce that I have today signed an Executive order¹ directing Federal departments

¹ Executive Order 11063 (27 F.R. 11527).