

Conference on Latin American History



August 19, 1971

Gnrl. de Div. Juan Mendoza
Rodríguez, Presidente
Comisión Nacional del
Sesquicentenario de la
Independencia del Perú
Av. Arequipa No. 410
Lima, Perú

Dear General Mendoza:

I was distressed to learn that, despite the efforts you and your commission made and the arrangements we finally completed by correspondence, no representative of the Conference on Latin American History was able to attend the "Fifth International Congress on the History of America" in Lima. I realize that our inability to name delegates until late in the summer contributed to this result, but the delegates who were finally named also encountered extremely bad luck. Both may well have written to you individually, but in any case I would like to explain to you the circumstances.

Dr. Leon G. Campbell was prepared to attend the conference, but because of some mishap the plane ticket Lima Tours was to issue to him did not arrive. Thinking that the ticket you had ordered might be delivered in any mail, he hesitated to buy another on his own lest he unduly complicate the matter for you. At the last moment he could do no better than to send you a copy of the paper he had prepared to be used as you thought appropriate and reluctantly gave up the idea of attending in person.

Dr. David Bushnell received his ticket without incident and was prepared to attend the Congress when a sudden, serious illness in his family prevented his departure. I have not been informed whether he was able to send you the paper he had prepared or whether his family misfortune deprived the Congress of both his presence and his scholarly contribution.



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I scarcely need say that I profoundly regret that the arrangements so arduously and so hopefully made did not result in attendance and participation in the Congreso by representatives of the Conference on Latin American History. I can only hope that you and your committee were not discommoded, that the Congreso proceeded as well as your excellent arrangements for it entitled you to expect, and that you have the satisfaction of knowing that the 150th anniversary of the independence of Peru was appropriately commemorated.

With warmest thanks for the courtesy you showed the Conference on Latin American History, and with appreciation of your endeavors to have it share in your important historical congress, I am

Sincerely yours,

William J. Griffith

William J. Griffith
Chairman
Conference on Latin
American History

WJG:lh

cc: Dr. Leon G. Campbell
Dr. David Bushnell

Dr. Leon G. Campbell
26/8/71
DA

