

MEMORANDUM

November 22, 1948

To: The Commission

From: Walter C. Louchheim, Jr.,  Adviser on Foreign Investment

Subject: Conference at State Department on Private Foreign Investment

Upon the invitation of Samuel P. Hayes, Jr., Special Assistant to Willard Thorp, Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs, I attended a conference at the State Department today.

The conference considered a proposal for a survey of American business and financial interests to ascertain the existing obstacles to private investment in Latin America partly in preparation for the forthcoming Inter-American Conference at Buenos Aires, and partly for the more general information of the government.

In addition to the State Department, the conference was attended by representatives of the Department of Commerce, the Export-Import Bank and Securities and Exchange Commission.

It was the consensus that prior to conducting a survey by the questionnaire or interview method, it would be advisable for the agencies represented to collate information which is now available on the subject of the meeting. Upon the completion of this, and before a survey is undertaken, it was decided that a meeting of government representatives with representatives of industry and banking should be held.