

\$1.4 billion of credits extended by the Export Import Bank. That Bank was created as a gift to a foreign country; if anything, the credits are an aid to American exporters. Our farm sector has not been neglected in the Alliance for Progress. We have moved nearly \$1.1 billion worth of farm commodities under our Public Law 480 program, selling about one-half of them to Latin America, either for dollars or for local currencies. . . .”

“Two additional points require attention: first, the net flow of US government assistance to the Alliance for Progress, after repayments and allowance for the undelivered goods, has amounted to \$4.1—rather than \$8.3 billion; and second, there has been a sharp decrease in US appropriations for the Alliance for Progress in recent years. Fiscal 1969 appropriations for the Alliance amounted to 64 percent of the average of the preceding years” (pp. 6-7).

The House resolution concludes: “As a result of those priorities, little of our aid had been visible to the masses of Latin American people. And little of it has been reflected in basic social and structural reforms, which are supposed to be the cornerstone of the Alliance for Progress. As a matter of fact, by being channeled largely through the central governments of Latin American countries, our aid in at least some instances, may have helped to stiffen resistance to change” (p. 7).

Considering the explicit statements of Rockefeller’s report on positive US policy for economic integration of the Hemisphere and military repression and his neglect to face up to the socio-economically destructive effects of current economic Hemisphere policy, the following statement from President Nixon appears in an ominous light: “This I pledge to you tonight; the nation that went to the moon in peace for all mankind is ready to share its technology in peace with its nearest neighbors.”

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BACKGROUND

Los señoríos independientes del imperio azteca. By CLAUDE NIGEL BYAM DAVIES. México, 1968. Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia. Serie Historia. Maps. Tables. Bibliography. Index. Pp. 257. Paper.

R. H. Barlow, in *The Extent of the Empire of the Culhua Mexica* (1949), was the first to deal specifically with the problem of enclaves

inside the Aztec empire. That certain internal areas remained unconquered and unincorporated at the time of the Spanish conquest is a well-known but nonetheless important and informative historical fact. It tells us something of both the geographical and military limitations of Aztec imperialism. An independent region might be one that had never been attacked, or it might be one that had been attacked unsuccessfully. In either case its condition resembled that of the regions lying wholly outside the imperial boundaries. Presumably, the situation could have arisen only in a society already divided, politically and culturally, into numerous small parts.

Byam Davies is concerned with the detailed reconstruction of the independent states, their size and composition, their prior history, and their relations to the Aztec empire. The four main areas studied are Metztlán and Tototepec, the Puebla-Tlaxcala valley, Yopitzinco, and the southern Tototepec. For the most part, these lack particular histories written in the colonial period by native sons (the exception is Tlaxcala), and information on them therefore comes from standard sources on the Aztecs. Discrepancies and imbalances among the sources are of course a major difficulty.

The independent states had some cultural traits in common, but these seem insufficient to explain their successful resistance. More interesting is Byam Davies' discussion of their similar strategic positions in the period of Ahuitzotl and Moctezuma II. From the point of view of the last rulers of Tenochtitlán, the independent areas were serious threats to Aztec internal communication, and the late imperial policy was to eat away at their territories and reduce their size and power. Moctezuma II was more concerned with integrating and consolidating the intermediate zones than with distant imperial expansion. His policy met less success in the case of Tlaxcala than in the other cases, but even with Tlaxcala—more specifically with its neighbors Huexotzinco and Cholula—there is evidence of a serious effort that might ultimately have succeeded but for the arrival of the Spaniards. The fact that the maps of the Aztec empire made by other investigators, including Barlow, show relatively large independent zones results principally from Byam Davies' recognition of these late acts under Moctezuma II.

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