those nations.

Such innovations are not the province of the government of the United States; they are the sovereign affair of each among the states concerned. Yet, if the United States shows its commitment to foster the success of ventures in such directions, that showing facilitates the new arrangement wherever sovereign states elect to adopt it.

In any case, it is the vital interest of the United States, that the approximately 350 millions of Ibero-America today be unleashed to realize their potential in cultural heritage and resources to become one of the great economic superpowers of the world. Whatever measures of exchange-control and trade regulation those sovereign states adopt, which might be helpful to the common interest of those states and the United States, must be favored by the government of the United States.

General agreement on the principles involved would not be difficult to reach. The details of practice are less simple, but the states of this Hemisphere already have existing, institutionalized mechanisms for working out accord in such matters, and could establish new mechanisms were it agreed that these are needed.

The most important thing now, is to understand that each of us is proceeding in mutual good will, that we wish not to injure one another. Faith in such good will fosters toleration for sovereign actions which might otherwise be causes for conflict.

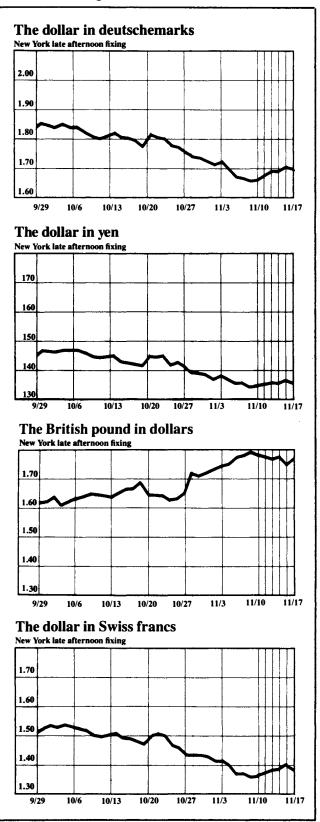
For example, were I President today, and to institute an emergency trigger-price tariff measure on imports of petroleum, if the brother-nations of the Hemisphere knew that it were I that was doing that, they would not see this action as injuring them. The oil-producing nations of the Hemisphere would know that I was proceeding in full awareness of their national interests, and would know that I had something additional up my sleeve which would ensure that they were not injured by the new tariff arrangement.

They would recognize that I must defend the vital economic interests of the United States, as I would view similarly urge such sovereign measures by friendly states. I would not permit the stability of the Hemisphere's or other friendly oilexporting nations to be injured by such actions; rather, we should meet quickly to elaborate a new, comprehensive energy policy, establishing an equitable long-term perspective for the affected sectors of industry.

The spirit in which things are done by friendly sovereign states is foremost. That this spirit is permeated with rationality, is the most essential of additional requirements.

So, all the impending pressures for controls over foreign exchange and foreign trade must be approached, and that aided by fraternal collaboration among the friendly states involved. Good faith, rationality, and collaboration, based upon a commitment to the fostering of the sovereign interest of each and all, defines a certain style of diplomacy. It is a change of style, in that sense, which is most urgently needed.

Currency Rates



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