On May 5, 1971, the World Bank made a loan of $67.5 million to help finance the construction and improvement of approximately 700 miles of the Argentine highways and feasibility and engineering studies on about 2,200 miles of highways for future projects.

The Argentine highway network serves more than 2 million vehicles. Since 1968 the planning, construction and maintenance activities of the national roads organization have been improved and an intensive road construction and improvement program launched. The National Highway Department will be responsible for the execution of the highways project.

Among those present at the signing of the loan documents were, from left to right: Mr. Luis B. Ney, Executive Director of World Bank for Argentina; His Excellency Pedro E. Real, Ambassador of Argentina to the United States; Mr. J. Burke Knapp, Vice President of World Bank; and Eng. Roberto Aguerto, Administrator General of National Highways Organization (Vialidad Nacional).

Photo: Edwin G. Huffman for WORLD BANK