Dear Chris,

Here are just a few lines to keep you informed of our activities. Unfortunately, mine are reduced to nothing, being in bed with a “grippe.”

You will have learned that after consultation with Mexico, Brussels, Tokyo, Grayson and I left together on the 7th. During our stopover in Mexico, I heard about the disturbances there. Having worked in Mexico, we continued on to the vicinity of Bogota in the afternoon. On the 6th, when the offices of the Military and the Consulador and the vice-consul, Mr. Vargas, were burned, it still happened. The political situation is complicated, and it has happened, and it has been quiet. Meanwhile, we had dinner with Mr. Vargas and his family. Meanwhile, we had dinner with Mr. Vargas and his family.
The World Bank Group Archives

The World Bank Group (WBG) Archives stores over 210,000 feet of records created or received by the World Bank Group since its establishment in 1944, making it one of the largest collections of development-related records in the world. The Archives protects the institutional memory of the World Bank Group and provides public access to records of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA).

The WBG Archives also offers access to a variety of online historical resources and information products that may assist with your research.

If you have a question about the World Bank Group’s work or would like to know more about a specific development topic, we invite you first to explore our multiple research avenues, then contact an archivist to request the necessary records.
Start your research

Documents & Reports
This database contains more than 200,000 publicly available World Bank Group documents and can be accessed at http://documents.worldbank.org.

Web Archives
The Web Archives captures information of historical and research value from World Bank Group external websites, from 1998 to the present. To search the online archives, visit http://www.worldbank.org/webarchives.

Video: World Bank Group History: Exploring the Archives
In collaboration with the Development Economics Vice Presidency (DECVP), the WBG Archives produced a short video that surveys the course of the World Bank Group’s history while introducing the various types of records that can be found in the Archives’ holdings. View the video at www.worldbank.org/archives-video.

Oral History Program
Transcripts and summaries of interviews conducted since 1961 provide a historical perspective that complements the World Bank Group’s archival holdings. View transcripts and listen to audio clips of firsthand accounts of key events in the World Bank Group’s history at http://oralhistory.worldbank.org.
Advance your research

EXPLORE YOUR TOPIC OF INTEREST IN DEPTH

Deepen your Knowledge of the World Bank Group

The WBG Archives’ holdings consist of a variety of media such as textual records, photographs, maps, film and video, and audio records. Textual records include operational correspondence documenting the World Bank Group’s lending operations and relationships with member countries, as well as records relating to economic and sector studies, operations policy development, public relations, and governance.
Explore Historical Records

Descriptions of the World Bank Group’s archival holdings enable researchers to learn about historical records and records creators. An ever-increasing number of digitized declassified records are also accessible to researchers, allowing exploration and use of World Bank Group records from anywhere in the world, at http://archivesholdings.worldbank.org.

Search the Archives by “Fonds”

The holdings of the WBG Archives are arranged by origin into groupings called fonds, which reflect the office, function, or individual responsible for creating and collecting them. A list of fonds with links to their descriptions is available at http://archivesholdings.worldbank.org/list-of-fonds.

Research Projects through the Projects & Operations Portal

The Projects and Operations Portal contains information on World Bank Group projects implemented around the globe. To access project records, go to http://www.worldbank.org/projects and search for projects by country and sector. The “Archival Records” section of the “Documents” tab on each project page lists the folders of archival records that may be accessed by the public.
Request records

CONSULT WITH AN ARCHIVIST

Submit a Request

Access to IBRD and IDA records held by the WBG Archives is governed by the World Bank Policy on Access to Information.

Requests for information may be submitted via the Access to Information request form at http://www.worldbank.org/wbaccess. Inquiries will be acknowledged in order of receipt within 24 hours, with a more comprehensive response provided within 20 business days. Additional time may be needed when declassification review or consultations with internal World Bank Group units, external parties, the Access to Information Committee, or the Board of Executive Directors are required.

Visit the Archives

Records that are only available in hard copy may be reviewed in the Archives Reading Room in Washington D.C. Research hours are Monday to Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by appointment.
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