

resistance to stabilizing commodity and price agreements, or non-tied grants and loans, but to every imperatively needed structural change has characterized United States policy toward the Third World. In short, the United States is today the bastion of the *ancient regime*, of stagnation and continued poverty for the Third World.

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The numerous American interventions to protect its investors throughout the world, and the United States ability to use foreign aid and loans as a lever to extract required conformity and concessions, have been more significant as a measure of its practice. The instances of this are too plentiful to detail here, but the remarkable relationship between American complaints on this score and the demise of objectionable local political leaders deserves more than passing reference.

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In today's context, we should regard United States political and strategic intervention as a rational overhead charge for its present and future freedom to act and expand. One must also point out that however high that cost may appear today, in the history of United States diplomacy specific American economic interests in a country or region have often defined the national interest on the assumption that the nation can identify its welfare with the profits of some of its citizens—whether in oil, cotton, or bananas. The costs to the state as a whole are less consequential than the desires

and profits of specific class strata and the need to operate everywhere in a manner that collectively, brings vast prosperity to the United States and its rulers.

Today it is a fact that capitalism in one country is a long-term physical and economic impossibility without a drastic shift in the distribution of the world's income. Isolated, the United States would face those domestic backlogged economic and social problems and weaknesses it has deferred confronting for two decades, and its disappearing strengths in global context would soon open the door to the internal dynamics which might jeopardize the very existence of liberal corporate capitalism at home.

The existing global political and economic structure, with all its stagnation and decay has not only brought the United States billions but has made possible, above all, a vast power that requires total world economic integration not on the basis of equality but of domination. And to preserve this form of world is the men who run the American economic politics at the highest levels.

### Notes

- <sup>1</sup>Department of Commerce, *U.S. Business Investment*, 65-66; *The Economist*, July 10, 1965, 167; Albert Johnstone, *United States Direct Investment in the World* (Cambridge, 1965), 48-49; *Le Monde*, January 10, 1968, July 23, 1968; *Wall Street Journal*, December 12, 1968; Committee on Foreign Relations, *United States and the World: American Relations*, 388; *New York Times*, April 10, 1968.
- <sup>2</sup>Department of Commerce, *Balance of Payments*, 150-51.