

**REMARKS BY THE GOVERNOR
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
HONORABLE RAFAEL HERNANDEZ COLON
AT THE CEREMONY OF ACQUISITION AND FINANCING
OF THE CONQUISTADOR RESORT & CASINO**

FEBRUARY, 7, 1991

EL SAN JUAN HOTEL & CASINO

It is indeed a pleasure to be present in this ceremony where we all celebrate the rebirth of El Conquistador.

Today our joint efforts, intense and extended over time, prove their worth in the extraordinary satisfaction of rescuing this land and returning it to its rightful role, concordant with its dazzling beauty.

The marvelous complex that will be erected shall support a goal that I highly value: justice in the distribution of opportunities, and consequently geographically balanced economical development.

This is a guiding principle in my Administration that, operationally applied to the tourism industry translates into our efforts to develop various "regional touristic poles." Our northeastern pole has been rapidly developing in the past 4 years, stimulated by the sheer beauty of this vicinity and buttressed by an infrastructure that we are progressively strengthening in all its components.

We deeply appreciate the fact that Williams Hospitality Management Corporation and Kumagai Caribbean Inc. have so wisely assessed the soundness of Puerto Rico's present situation and development strategy, as well as the demonstrable extent of our growth potential.

I firmly believe that you have not only chosen the right place, but equally important the right people. In the execution of the thousands of jobs that the construction phase will generate, without a shadow of a doubt, I am confident that nowhere in the world will you find workers who are more loyal and productive than Puerto Rican workers. On their behalf, again I thank you.

Upon viewing the three flags, USA, Japan and our own Puerto Rican flag, I adhere to the constructive dimensions of the global economy and vow for the continued prosperity of international alliances.

This hotel was originally christened with a proud Spanish name, El Conquistador, that is The Conqueror --and next year it will again, and more

forcefully than ever, take pride in its name. It will reopen on a historical date, exactly 500 years after the discovery of this New World, and on that transcendental anniversary, visitors from all over the world will be here in El Conquistador discovering Puerto Rico, what we are, who we are and how willpower can bring prosperity through democracy.

FUNDACION
BIBLIOTECA

RHC

15 DE FEBRERO 1964