



FUNDACION

BIBLIOTECA

Speech delivered by  
the Honorable Governor  
Rafael Hernández Colón,  
at the Cerromar Hotel,  
Tuesday, January 2,  
1973.

RHC



\* \* \* \* \*

Distinguished  
guests and friends:

Some of our  
distinguished visitors  
here tonight represent  
countries as far away  
as Japan, and others  
are from as nearby  
as our sister island,  
the Dominican Republic.

To all of you, I  
want to say, most  
sincerely, that you  
do us great honor in  
being with us during  
these Inaugural festi-  
vities, and your

presence is a source  
of very real pleasure  
and pride to all of us  
Puerto Ricans. We

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thank and salute our  
visiting guests, one  
and all.

This is a brief  
pause in our daily  
lives, a time of  
festivity but also of  
purposefulness. I  
would hope that our  
visiting guests will  
return in the future  
to see us in our work-  
day garb, because that  
is the typical Puerto  
Rico, the Puerto  
Rico of the constant  
fight of a brave and  
determined people against  
material adversity.

Even in our daily  
struggle, however, the  
Puerto Rican people

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never lose their  
warm sense of  
hospitality --which  
is not simply a  
convention, or a  
formal gesture. It  
is something which  
springs from the  
heart.

Heart and work  
are inseparable in  
Puerto Rico. This  
is seen in the tragic  
but noble death of  
one of the heroes  
of the Puerto Rican  
people --Roberto  
Clemente-- who died  
on an errand of  
mercy, in the work  
of giving from the  
heart.

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In Spanish, we  
say "está en su casa"  
--"my house is yours".

I want our visitors to  
know that, however far  
you may find yourselves  
from our shores in the  
future, our hearts as  
well as our doors will  
continue to be open to  
you. You will always  
be warmly welcomed  
among us. And, even  
after so short a visit,  
we hope you will always  
feel that, in Puerto

Rico, "está en su casa".

Thank you for being  
with us and for sharing  
these days of gratefulness  
to our splendid leaders  
of the past, and of hope  
and dedication for the future.

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