



## Embajada de los Estados Unidos en México

### BIBLIOTECA BENJAMÍN FRANKLIN

Servicio Cultural e Informativo

#### MEETINGS BETWEEN MEXICAN AND U.S. PRESIDENTS

Date and place	Mexican President	U.S. President	Topics
Oct. 16, 1909 Cd. Juárez, Chih. and El Paso, TX	Porfirio Díaz	William H. Taft	This was the first official meeting between U.S. and Mexican presidents, and it was also the first time an American president officially visited a foreign country.
Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 1924 Washington, DC	Plutarco Elías Calles President-elect	Calvin Coolidge President-elect	This meeting tried to settle a contentious argument over oil and agrarian legislation that brought the two countries to the edge of war.
April 20, 1943 Monterrey, N. L. and Corpus Christi, TX	Manuel Avila Camacho	Franklin D. Roosevelt	The two presidents talked about the Non-Intervention Principle and about the Good Neighbor Policy. As a result of this meeting an Economic Cooperation Commission was created and a former agreement on farm workers was modified, allowing 60 thousand Mexican workers going to the U.S. each year.
March 3-5, 1947 Mexico City	Miguel Alemán Valdez	Harry S. Truman	This was the first time an American President officially visited the Mexican capital. This was a friendly visit and discussions were on U.S. loans to foreign countries and the apthous fever problem.
April 29-May 1, 1947 Washington, DC	Miguel Alemán Valdez	Harry S. Truman	This was the first time a Mexican President officially visited the U.S. capital.
Oct. 19, 1953 Presa Falcón, Tamps.	Adolfo Ruíz Cortinez	Dwight D. Eisenhower	The occasion for this meeting was the inaugural celebration of the Falcon Dam built with shared investments, which included 58.6% from the U.S. and 41.4% from Mexico.

March 26-28, 1956 White Sulphur Springs, MT	Adolfo Ruíz Cortinez	Dwight D. Eisenhower	At President Eisenhower's invitation, President Ruíz Cortinez and Canadian Prime Minister Louis S. St. Laurent met to discuss a variety of tri-lateral issues which included migrant workers, illegal fishery, and civil aviation development.
Feb. 19-20, 1959 Acapulco, Gro.	Adolfo López Mateos	Dwight D. Eisenhower	The two leaders agreed to cooperate in building the 100 million dollar Diablo Dam on the Rio Grande, near Del Rio, TX. The dam was to be 250 feet high and 6.5 miles long and was to supplement the Falcon Dam. They also agreed to study ways to reach a multilateral solution to the lead and zinc problem, and to develop a coordinated plan to attack the screwworm problem.
Oct. 9-15, 1959 Washington, DC and Camp David	Adolfo López Mateos	Dwight D. Eisenhower	Shrimp fishery, Mexican cotton and zinc quotas were subjects discussed at this meeting.
Oct. 24, 1960 Cd. Acuña, Coah.	Adolfo López Mateos	Dwight D. Eisenhower	The two presidents announced that construction of the Amistad Dam across the Rio Grande would be started as soon as technical surveys were completed.
June 29-July 1, 1962 Mexico City	Adolfo López Mateos	John F. Kennedy	President López Mateos and President Kennedy announced a temporary agreement on the reduction of the salinity of the Colorado River waters used by Mexican farmers in the Mexicali Valley. The signed agreement included a \$20 million U.S. agricultural loan to Mexico.
Feb. 21-22, 1964 Los Angeles, CA and Palm Springs, CA	Adolfo López Mateos	Lyndon B. Johnson	Both Presidents spoke at the 96 <sup>th</sup> Charter Day Anniversary celebration at the University of California-Los Angeles, where both received honorary law doctorates. Later in Palm Springs they tried again to seek a solution to the problem of salinity in the Colorado River waters flowing into Mexico and damaging crops. They also promised to reduce international trade barriers and to expand access to each other's markets.
Sep. 25, 1964 El Chamizal, Mex.	Adolfo López Mateos	Lyndon B. Johnson	A flood in 1864 had altered the course of the Rio Grande and had put 176.92 hectares of the Mexican territory on the U.S. side. President Johnson visited El Paso, TX to meet President López Mateos for the dedication of a marker symbolizing the settlement of the Chamizal territorial dispute between the U.S. and Mexico, under terms of the 1963 Chamizal Convention, which changed to U.S.-Mexico borderline.
Nov. 12-13, 1964 L.B. Johnson's ranch, near Johnson City, TX	Gustavo Díaz Ordaz President-elect	Lyndon B. Johnson	President Johnson invited the president-elect to his ranch to discuss future relations between both countries.

April 14-15, 1966 Mexico City	Gustavo Díaz Ordaz	Lyndon B. Johnson	In this first visit to a foreign capital since he became President, Mr. Johnson visited Mexico City for the unveiling of a Statue of Abraham Lincoln, a gift, authorized by Congress in 1964, of the U.S. people to the Mexican people in commemoration of Mexico's Independence. President Johnson reaffirmed U.S. support for the Alliance for Progress. Both leaders issued a joint communique in which it was agreed that Foreign Policy Principles of Latin American Nations were "self determination, non intervention, and peaceful solution of controversies," and added "the need for maintaining constantly open doors to dialogue."
Dec. 3, 1966 Presa La Amistad, Cd. Acuña, Coah.	Gustavo Díaz Ordaz	Lyndon B. Johnson	The two presidents spent four hours inspecting the \$78 million Amistad Dam being built across the Rio Grande with U.S.-Mexico shared funding. In a joint statement the leaders cited the dam as an outstanding example of how two neighbor countries can resolve their common boundary problems with benefit to both.
Oct. 26-28, 1967 Washington, DC and El Chamizal, Mex.	Gustavo Díaz Ordaz	Lyndon B. Johnson	The settlement of a U.S.-Mexican fishing dispute was announced at this meeting and an agreement was signed to allow vessels of each country to fish in a zone 9 to 12 miles off the coast of the other country through 1972. Both Presidents flew to El Chamizal, on the U.S.-Mexico border, to participate in ceremonies marking the formal transfer between the two countries of the land known as El Chamizal.
Dec. 13, 1968 El Chamizal, Mex. and El Paso, TX	Gustavo Díaz Ordaz	Lyndon B. Johnson	Under terms of the 1963 Chamizal Convention the U.S.-Mexico border was changed officially in a ceremony in El Paso, TX on December 13, 1968. Presidents Johnson and Díaz Ordaz, standing on a bridge between the two countries, set off an explosion shifting the Rio Grande into a new 4.5-mile concrete channel placing all the 176.92 hectares of the disputed El Chamizal area on the Mexican side of the river. The U.S. simultaneously received 193 acres of Mexican territory, the Northern half of Cordova Island.
Sep. 8, 1969 Presa La Amistad Cd. Acuña, Coah.	Gustavo Díaz Ordaz	Richard M. Nixon	President Nixon joined President Díaz Ordaz in ceremonies dedicating the \$78 million dollar, six-mile long Amistad Dam on the Rio Grande River, between Del Rio, TX and Cd. Acuña, Coah. This was Mr. Nixon's first visit to a Latin American country during his presidency.
Aug. 20-21, 1970 Puerto Vallarta, Jal.	Gustavo Díaz Ordaz	Richard M. Nixon	A border agreement, in the form of a proposed treaty to be submitted to the senates of both countries, was the result of this meeting. This agreement would settle boundary disputes and uncertainties stemming from the "meandering and erratic rivers" forming about 3/5 of the 2000-mile border between the U.S. and Mexico.
Sep. 3, 1970 Coronado, CA	Gustavo Díaz Ordaz	Richard M. Nixon	President Díaz Ordaz was invited to a State Dinner marking the California Bicentennial at which President Nixon lauded Mexican-Americans' contributions to the U.S.

Nov. 13, 1970 Washington, DC	Luis Echeverría Alvarez President-elect	Richard M. Nixon	The main purpose of the meeting was “to talk about hemisphere and world problems and to develop a personal relationship.” The presidents agreed to exchange state visits and to work to maintain and enhance good relations between Mexico and the U.S.
June 15-16, 1972 Washington, DC	Luis Echeverría Alvarez	Richard M. Nixon	In a joint communique, the two countries pledged to study the problems of Mexican migrant workers who entered the U.S. for seasonal employment and to continue efforts to halt the international narcotics traffic. President Nixon also agreed to take steps to improve the quality of water flowing from the Colorado River into Mexico.
Oct. 21, 1974 Nogales, Son., Magdalena de Kino, Son. and Tubac, AZ	Luis Echeverría Alvarez	Gerald Ford	President Ford affirmed support for Mexico’s proposal for a United Nations Economic Charter to protect developing countries, and promised more equipment and personnel to help Mexico stem the flow of illegal workers to the U.S.
Sep. 24, 1976 Washington, DC	José López Portillo President-elect	Gerald Ford	This meeting was an important step in the rebuilding of U.S.-Mexican amity after some years of friction under President Echeverría.
Feb. 14-17, 1977 Washington, DC	José López Portillo	James Carter	A joint communique was issued in Washington, where the two presidents pledged close examination of mutual problems and regular consultation “on the search for worldwide peace, economic betterment and respect for the rights of man.” President López Portillo offered his “good offices” in helping normalize relations between U.S. and Cuba.
Feb. 14-16, 1979 Mexico City	José López Portillo	James Carter	Both leaders agreed to begin governmental negotiations on the US purchase of Mexican natural gas, and signed agreements on scientific and technological cooperation, the development of arid and semi-arid lands, and housing.
Sep. 28-29, 1979 Washington, DC	José López Portillo	James Carter	President López Portillo made an official state visit to the U.S. to attend the United Nations General Assembly and held three meetings with President Carter. They agreed to begin negotiations on compensation by Mexico for the damage done to the U.S. as a result of the runaway Ixtoc oil well in the Gulf of Mexico.
Jan. 5, 1981 Bridge between Cd. Juárez, Chih. and El Paso, TX	José López Portillo	Ronald Reagan President-elect	This meeting was intended to symbolize the two leaders commitment to build better relations between the U.S. and Mexico. The two presidents pledged to establish a “personal relationship” as a basis for easing tensions and renewing friendship between the neighboring nations.

June 7-9, 1981 Washington, DC and Camp David	José López Portillo	Ronald Reagan	This meeting centered on economic, military and international political issues. At the end of the talks, President Reagan announced that he had accepted the Mexican President's invitation to attend a 22 nations summit meeting on North-South issues in Cancún, Mex. Officials of the two countries signed an agreement under which the U.S. would provide six to eight million tons of grains, food stuffs and oil seeds to Mexico in 1982.
Sep. 17-18, 1981 Grand Rapids, MI	José López Portillo	Ronald Reagan	While in Grand Rapids, Michigan – attending the dedication of the Gerald Ford Presidential Museum, U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, and Mexican President José López Portillo conferred twice.
Oct. 22-23, 1981 Cancún, Q. Roo	José López Portillo	Ronald Reagan	Leaders of 22 nations met in Cancún, Mexico to discuss economic cooperation between the industrialized countries of the North and the developing countries of the South. They did not issue a formal communique, but said they agreed to move toward “global negotiations” to assist the poorer nations.
Oct. 8, 1982 Tijuana, BCN and Coronado, CA	Miguel de la Madrid President-elect	Ronald Reagan	President Ronald Reagan and Mexican President-elect Miguel De la Madrid pledged mutual friendship and respect and said they would work together to help Mexico overcome the economic crisis that had repercussions on both sides of the border.
Aug. 14, 1983 La Paz, BCS	Miguel de la Madrid	Ronald Reagan	The two leaders met to discuss U.S.-Central American policy and Mexico's economic crisis, among other issues. After their talks, President Reagan and President De la Madrid signed an agreement on finding solutions to environmental pollution on the common border.
May 14-16, 1984 Washington, DC	Miguel de la Madrid	Ronald Reagan	The main theme at this meeting was the U.S. and Mexican differences over Central America. President Reagan wanted the Mexican support for U.S. policies in Central America, and President De la Madrid called for the application of “principles and rules of international law established by the countries of the American continent.”
Jan. 3, 1986 Mexicali, BCN	Miguel de la Madrid	Ronald Reagan	The main topic at this meeting was the Mexican debt. Mexico was seeking U.S. support in obtaining loans from commercial banks and international lending agencies. President Reagan told President De la Madrid that the U.S. would back Mexico in seeking those funds.
Aug. 13-14, 1986 Washington, DC	Miguel de la Madrid	Ronald Reagan	In this meeting President Reagan agreed to increase cooperation in resolving Mexico's economic problems and fighting narcotics trafficking. After the meeting, the Mexican President told reporters that the “cancer” of Mexican official involvement in the drug trade would be eliminated. President Reagan announced an end to a six-year U.S. embargo on Mexican tuna imports and said expanded trade and investment would be negotiated.

Feb. 13, 1988 Mazatlán, Sin.	Miguel de la Madrid	Ronald Reagan	In this, their sixth summit the two leaders signed an agreement allowing greater access to American markets for Mexican-made textiles and negotiated two other pacts: one on telecommunications and the other on civil aviation. They agreed to combat drug trafficking with more energy.
Nov. 22, 1988 Houston, TX	Carlos Salinas de Gortari President-elect	George Bush President-elect	The two incoming presidents discussed the future of relations between their countries in a three-hour session at the Johnson Space Center.
July 14, 1989 Paris, France	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	The two leaders attended the Bicentennial celebration of the French Revolution in Paris, where they held a private meeting and talked about the Mexican debt.
Oct. 1-5, 1989 Washington, DC	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	In this five day state visit by the Mexican President to the U.S., agreements on trade, investment, environment, steel shipments, and textiles were signed. The presidents also talked about the protection of patents and copyrights in Mexico.
June 10-12, 1990 Washington, DC	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	President Bush and President Salinas issued a joint statement in which they hailed the possibility of a U.S.-Mexico free trade agreement. They said such an agreement could be a “powerful engine for economic development, creating new jobs and opening new markets” in both countries.
Sep. 30, 1990 New York, NY	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	The two leaders attended the U.N. World Summit for Children in New York, where they held a private meeting.
Nov. 26-27, 1990 Monterrey and Agualeguas, N. L.	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	The presidents conferred on issues including a U.S.-Mexico free trade agreement (President Bush Sep. 26, had formally notified the U.S. Congress that he intended to open trade discussions with Mexico) and the use of force to put Iraq out of Kuwait.
April 7, 1991 Houston, TX	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	President Bush assured President Salinas that he was committed to the proposed free trade agreement between U.S. and Mexico. After his meeting, President Salinas began a tour of the U.S. and Canada to promote trilateral trade.
Dec. 14, 1991 Washington, DC	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	President Bush told President Salinas that he wanted a free-trade agreement as soon as possible, and that he would try to get the support of the Congress even in an election year.

Feb. 27-28, 1992 San Antonio, TX	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	During a regional antinarcotics summit President Bush directed the U.S. Defense Department to provide Mexico with 12UH-1H Huey helicopters and helicopter spare parts. The equipment was used for tracking drug traffickers.
July 14, 1992 San Diego, CA	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	President Bush invited President Salinas to the Major League Baseball's annual All-Star game at San Diego's Jack Murphy Stadium.
Oct. 7, 1992 San Antonio, TX	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	George Bush	Trade representatives from the U.S., Canada and Mexico initialed the proposed NAFTA at a ceremony in San Antonio, Texas, thereby granting preliminary approval to the trade pact. Present at the ceremony were President Bush, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and President Salinas.
Jan. 8, 1993 Austin, TX	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	William J. Clinton	U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton joined with president Salinas in the governors' mansion in Austin, Texas. Clinton in his first meeting with a foreign leader as president-elect, promised Salinas that one of his first acts as U.S. president would be the appointment of a senior aide to oversee further talks with Mexico.
Sep. 26, 1994 New York, NY	Carlos Salinas de Gortari	William J. Clinton	Both leaders met during the 49 <sup>th</sup> United Nations General Assembly. In his address President Salinas said, "The use and threat of force, when world peace is not in danger, are no longer valid frames of reference for achieving the ends sought today by sovereign nations."
Nov. 23, 1994 Washington, DC	Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León President-elect	William J. Clinton	President Bill Clinton and Mexico's next leader Ernesto Zedillo met at the White House hoping to further expand trade and other ties despite a controversy brewing over immigration. The meeting took place amid tensions sparked by a California move to deny basic services to illegal immigrants. Another priority topic was the NAFTA.
Dec. 10, 1994 Miami, FL	Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León	William J. Clinton	Leaders from 34 Western Hemisphere nations attended the Summit of the Americas, and agreed to take steps to establish a comprehensive free-trade body by the year 2005, to be known as the Free Trade Area of the Americas, that would be the world's largest purchasing power. On the last day of the summit, the U.S., Canada and Mexico invited Chile to join NAFTA.
Oct. 10, 1995 Washington, DC	Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León	William J. Clinton	Both leaders stressed the importance of \$12.5 billion in loans to Mexico from the U.S. earlier in the year that had helped Mexico avert an economic collapse. Clinton announced that the U.S. would help finance new technology for Mexico's war on drug trafficking, and Zedillo unveiled a new program to curb illegal immigration to southern California from Mexico.

May 5-7, 1997 Mexico City	Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León	William J. Clinton	Both Presidents signed an accord calling for broader mutual cooperation in fighting drug trafficking. Along with that accord, announced May 6, cabinet ministers had brokered minor accords on issues such as the environment, trade and border enforcement. U.S. officials agreed to work to stem the flow of illegal weapons from the U.S. into Mexico.. Also, a plan to build a bridge across the Rio Grande river between the border cities of Brownsville, Texas and Matamoros, Mexico was announced. Clinton met with leaders of the conservative National Action Party (PAN) and the left-wing Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), Mexico's two main opposition parties.
Nov. 13-14, 1997 Washington, DC	Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León	William J. Clinton	Both Presidents signed a number of agreements that moved toward resolving some recent disputes between the two nations. Those agreements included a pledge to better cooperate in fighting drug trafficking; a new agreement on the extradition of criminals; and a pledge of cooperation in environmental and economic projects along the countries' shared border. Zedillo and Clinton, along with representatives of 26 other member nations of the Organization of American States (OAS), signed an accord to fight trafficking in illegal weapons.
June 9, 1998 New York, NY	Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León	William J. Clinton	At the Drug Summit of the U.N. General Assembly, President Clinton met privately with President Zedillo, and the two agreed to improve cooperation and communication and to strengthen ways to deal with drugs trafficking and money laundering.
Feb. 14-15, 1999 Mérida, Yuc.	Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León	William J. Clinton	The two presidents discussed policies on immigration and combating drugs, among other issues, and signed several accords. The two governments also agreed to step up efforts to control violence along the U.S.-Mexico border and to train border patrol officers to respond to violent situations without injuring civilians. The U.S. also offered Mexico \$4 billion in loans from the Export-Import Bank of the U.S. to strengthen U.S. exports to the country.
June 9, 2000 Washington, DC	Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León	William J. Clinton	President Clinton and Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo, in the twilight of their terms, met for perhaps the last time and witnessed the signing of an agreement establishing U.S. and Mexican boundary lines in a potentially oil-rich area of the Gulf of Mexico. The division gives Mexico 4,100 square miles of the deep water area and the United States 2,536 square miles in an area known as the western gap of the Gulf of Mexico. They also discussed on bilateral trade and common interest topics. Both presidents also agreed to promote democratic institutions and economic development.

Feb. 16, 2001 San Francisco del Rincón, Gto.	Vicente Fox Quesada	George W. Bush	The meeting took place at President Fox's ranch "San Cristóbal". The agenda covered: trade, transportation, energy and the environment. Among the issues discussed were the immigration and drug-trafficking problems created by Mexico's 2,100-mile border with its northern neighbor. President Bush also signaled that he would push Congress to drop the annual review of Mexico's efforts in the drug war known as "certification."
April 21, 2001 Quebec City	Vicente Fox Quesada	George W. Bush	Western Hemisphere leaders at the Summit of the Americas called for constructive dialogue rather than confrontation about the effect of free trade and globalization. President Bush had enthusiastic support from President Vincente Fox, who went to Quebec with a message for the participants, that the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) of the US, Mexico and Canada has demonstrated the benefits of open markets. He said that "Free trade has been extremely successful for Mexico."
April 22, 2001 Quebec City	Vicente Fox Quesada	George W. Bush	At the conclusion of the Summit of the Americas President Bush met with Prime Minister Jean Chretien and President Fox to discuss ways to strengthen the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between the three countries. Bush praised Canada as the U.S.'s largest energy supplier and said Mexico should do more to promote development of oil and gas. The three leaders said they had agreed to establish a North American Energy Working Group with the goal of making the market in the region more efficient.
May 3, 2001 Washington, DC	Vicente Fox Quesada	George W. Bush	The meeting covered such topics as trade, energy policy, cross-border transportation and immigration. President Fox said that talks about proposed immigration reform are making progress toward his goal of improving conditions for Mexicans working illegally in the United States. But, he noted, he is not asking the United States to grant amnesty to illegal workers. The U.S. ambassador to Mexico, Jeffrey Davidow, who also attended the meeting, said in an interview "Our president does not favor a broad-based amnesty, but he does favor a regularization of the status of some people."
Sep. 4-7, 2001 Washington, DC	Vicente Fox Quesada	George W. Bush	With trade and investment between the United States and Mexico at record levels, the Presidents took stock of the success of NAFTA in bringing economic growth and development, and with it higher wages, more jobs, and lower prices. The Presidents agreed that immediate measures were needed to strengthen the performance of the North American Development Bank (NADBank), and its sister Border Environmental Cooperation Commission (BECC), to identify and fund environmental infrastructure projects on the border. They highlighted growing cooperation against migrant smuggling and other organized trans-border crime, including a new agreement signed September 5, 2001, on sharing forfeited assets seized as a result of joint investigations. They renewed their commitment to forging new and realistic approaches to migration to ensure it is safe, orderly, legal and dignified, and agreed on the framework within which this ongoing effort is based.

Oct. 3-4, 2001  
Washington, DC

Vicente Fox  
Quesada

George W. Bush

The reunion was held at the White House to underscore personally Mexico's solidarity and steadfast support for the United States in the campaign against terrorism. President Bush expressed to President Fox the tremendous importance the Americans attach to the partnership with Mexico, as well as his appreciation for Mexico's immediate steps to boost cooperation with the United States in critical areas following the September 11 terrorist attacks.

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