

Pat Nixon's Emotional Departure From Peru

Lima, Peru

Pat Nixon went home from this earthquake-ravaged country yesterday with a bouquet of roses from an injured child and editorial praise for her "compassion and generous help."

The United States ambassador called her visit a "tremendous success."

Mrs. Nixon received the roses at a hospital from a boy with an arm broken in the May 31 quake that left 50,000 persons dead and 800,000 homeless.

Her visit, plus U.S. assistance, may help improve strained relations between the two countries.

EMBRACE

At the airport, when Mrs. Nixon prepared to board a U.S. Air Force presidential jet for the return flight to the California White House, she

was embraced by Peru's first lady, Consuelo de Velasco.

The two women had toured devastated Huaylas Valley on Monday by cargo plane and helicopter, visiting field hospitals and tent camps for the quake survivors. When they returned to Lima from the valley, they took with them 14 homeless refugees from the town of Yungay that was buried under an avalanche of mud.

Mrs. Nixon arrived in Lima on Sunday with two jet aircraft carrying nine tons of relief supplies and \$30,000 in donations from U.S. citizens.

PAPER

The newspaper *Correo*, which has supported the military government of President Juan Velasco, said: "We must tell the American people that in the person of Mrs. Nixon the Peruvian people

will never forget her compassion, her identification with our pain and her generous help."

The U.S. ambassador to Peru, Taylor G. Belcher, called Mrs. Nixon's visit a "tremendous success." President Velasco, he said, "couldn't have been more moved by Mrs. Nixon's visit. I heard this from many people."

Relations were strained by Peru's expropriation of a U.S.-owned oil company in 1968 and the periodic seizure of U.S. fishing boats accused of violating a 200-mile offshore limit set by Peru.

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