THE ACADEMY OF AMERICAN FRANCISCAN HISTORY

Announces Publication of Documentary Series, Volume Two

Benavides' Memorial of 1630

Translated by Peter P. Forrestal, C.S.C. Annotated by Cyprian J. Lynch, Ó.F.M.

Fray Alonso de Benavides, closing his term as Custos of the Franciscan Missions of New Mexico, in 1630 submitted to Philip IV of Spain a report on the problems and progress of his Order's labors in that vast territory. This memorial was so singularly interesting that it was immediately issued by the royal printery in Madrid and shortly translated into several European languages. Presenting an unforgettable picture of seventeenth-century New Mexico, Benavides' description of the life and customs, the folkways and the religious ceremonies of the Apaches and the Pueblos is one of the prime sources for our knowledge of the aborigines of the Southwest United States.

The specialist will find this an indispensable source for the history of the Spanish colonization effort in America; for his benefit, it is greatly enhanced by the well-prepared introduction and notes. The general reader will be equally fascinated by the keen observations and the wealth of information furnished in this report by an extremely alert observer whose lot was cast among a strange and primitive people.

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Left to right: Dr. Alceu Amoroso Lima; His Excellency, Most Reverend Amieto G. Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States; Senhora Lima.



Left to right: Dr. Alceu Amoroso Lima, recipient of the Serra Award, Very Reverend Prus Barth, O.F.M., Minister Provincial of the Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart.