

## John Shattuck on the Alliance for Progress

I actually think that economic development and democracy do go hand in hand. I don't by any means say, as some people do, that there is sort of an inevitable liberalization of society and democratization when economic development occurs. I think all we have to do is look at China; although there is evidence on the other hand that there has been more pressure for democratic and local accountability as a result of some of the economic developments that have occurred in China. So, I am not one of those who says, "You've got to democratize first and only then will economic development come." I think you do everything to try to promote these elements simultaneously. In the Alliance for Progress, this is of course a very different era, very long ago, and I think what you have to look at there was a world in Latin America which was run very much by right wing dictators at that point—with the exception of course of Cuba which had just had the Cuban Revolution—and very stratified societies in the early 1960s with a huge amount of economic disparity from the top to the bottom. So, I think it was that world that President Kennedy was looking at in terms of the Alliance for Progress and he was hoping to make connections, as I think he did certainly through his visits to Latin America, with the masses, with the people, not just the leaders but the people who were themselves struggling to enter the middle class and the like.