

John W. Hales, President

February 2, 1983

Berkeley Elliott, Chairman
International Fellowship Committee

Spanish Translation
Project

Attached you will find a translated copy of a letter from Antonio Moya Cerpa of Sevilla, Spain, written to Lynne Kulieke. I am sending you this letter in the interest of keeping those involved in the translation project informed of concerns raised by Antonio.

Berkeley, I believe you might talk to Lynne so that when she writes Antonio she can assure him that the points he raises are being considered in the overall picture.

JWH/rjm

CC: URANTIA Foundation
Lynne Kulieke

Letter from Antonio Moya Cerpa to Lynne Kulieke
8 January 1983
Translated by Lynne Kulieke
(quotes, underlining and capitals are Antonio's)

Dear Lynne,

I have some little news that has come to me recently and I wish to communicate it to you.

Finally I received a very attentive letter from the URANTIA Foundation, signed by Mr. Thomas A. Kendall...

I have also received the URANTIAN News from URANTIA Foundation, 1982, the last letter of this type that, I believe has come out. Well fine, in the section "Translations" I have been able to read (with a dictionary) what is said on the translation of the Book to Spanish, which is "once completed, the translation will then be reviewed by bilingual readers to assess the accuracy of the translation." This has disquieted me a little, especially when I had the idea of writing you to communicate to you a last idea which occurred to me before receiving this URANTIAN. And I say that it has disquieted me a little because, as far as I know, if those lines in English refer to us (Carlos and me), we are not bilingual, at least not I. And precisely due to this circumstance - that of not being bilingual from Spanish to English - the following idea had occurred to me before receiving this last URANTIAN.

Once we review the pages translated to Spanish, we could consider that the translation to Spanish is correct. But there exists a problem: we can answer for the "good Spanish" of the reviewed pages, but we will not be able to answer for the possible errors, such as omissions of adjectives or complete sentences (as happened in French) that said pages might have this, for the simple reason that, in my case, I will be limited to reading the translated pages, and will not compare the text with the English Book, for the simple reason that I didn't know English.

It would be ideal if you did this work of comparing the English-Spanish texts. And for a simple reason: when they make the proofs for print previous to the publication of the Book in Spanish, said proofs will normally contain many errors from the linotype. I know this because for years I worked in the editorial office of a magazine. Well fine, as I suppose that said proofs will be made in Chicago. You live there and know Spanish very well; thus you would be the ideal person to correct the proofs and the errors that they may contain as much in translation as in spelling and omissions.

Letter from Antonio Moya Cerpa to Lynne Kulieke
Page Two

To effect said work, I believe that the best thing would be for you to have a person with The URANTIA Book in hand, reading in English slowly. You would have the printing proofs in Spanish and would go along listening to the English and correcting the Spanish if the case should arise. It is better to do it thus, with the printing proofs, because if you did it with the pages reviewed by us, afterwards one would have to do it again with the printing proofs and the work would duplicate itself. In this way I suggest that we kill two birds with one stone: to see if the translators have forgotten something and to correct the possible printing errors. It is precisely this kind of review that was NOT done when the French version was published, and now, who will bite the bullet? That is to say, who will undertake this extremely arduous task with the French version? The result you have before you - a magnificent Livre d'URANTIA published by Amadon Corporation full of errors. Will the French-speaking world ever have a perfect Livre? I believe that they have already lost a little hope of having it. The task of correcting now a book like this is MUCH GREATER than if things had been done right at first, before publication. Therefore, I believe that we ought not save efforts in the task of publishing The URANTIA Book in Spanish, so that the same thing that has happened with the French doesn't happen to us. If it were to be published badly from the beginning, who would rectify the situation afterwards? It would be a more gigantic task than what awaits us now. And what satisfaction when a work has been done well, such as it ought to be, not in the worst manner! Besides to translate and review the Spanish text is a very large task of service for the rest: we will offer thousands of people the possibility of growing spritually and of knowing the fifth Revelation to this planet. I offer you the possiblity of earning for yourself a good piece of heaven, with your work of review (this is half a joke), but, seriously, our responsibility is great, and we can neither avoid it nor do poorly the work which awaits us. And you are one of the key persons on whom we can count...

/dvk

for
John
Hales

Letter from Antonio Moya Cerpa
to Lynne Kulich
8 January, 1983

(1)

extract

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To effect said work, I believe that the best thing would be for you to have a person with the UPLMNA book in hand, reading in English slowly. You would have the printing proofs in Spanish and would go along listening to the English and correcting the Spanish if the case should arise. It is better to do it thus, with the printing proofs, because if you did it with the pages received by us, afterwards we would have to do it again with the printing proofs and the work would duplicate itself. In this way I suggest that we kill 2 birds with 1 stone, to see if the translators have forgotten something and to correct the possible printing errors. It is precisely this kind of review that was NOT done when the French version was published, and

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