

CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS
IN LATIN AMERICA

Text of Statement to be given in the First Committee
by the Canadian Representative, Mr. Hugh Faulkner,
M.P., on the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear
Weapons in Latin America (Item 91), October 25, 1967.

In his address to the United Nations General Assembly on September 27 the Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, expressed the following views on the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America, concluded last February in Mexico City: "I am sure we should all wish to congratulate the states of Latin America and the Caribbean for reaching agreement to establish the first nuclear free zone in an inhabited part of the world. This Treaty will lend impetus to non-proliferation negotiations, which have now been intensified in Geneva and will shortly be before this Assembly." Since time did not permit Mr. Martin to elaborate further on the views of the Canadian Government, I propose to do so in this Committee.

From the outset Canada has closely followed the efforts of the Latin American nations to create a nuclear free zone in the southern part of the Western Hemisphere. We supported Resolution 1911 of the Eighteenth General Assembly and were represented by an observer at the last three meetings of the preparatory commission for the denuclearization of Latin America. It was thus with a genuine sense of approval that we greeted final agreement early this year after painstaking and often difficult negotiations.

While Canada lies outside the zone, we are by no means uninterested in or unaffected by the Treaty. We are after all a Western Hemispheric nation ourselves and enjoy friendly relations with all nations of Latin America and the Caribbean. We welcome any measure which will contribute