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MEMBERSHIP OF U.N. Organs

Statement in the General Assembly by
Mr. Arthur R. Smith, Canadian
Representative on the Special Political
Committee, on November 25, 1959.

...The Canadian Delegation did not make a statement in
e Special Political Committee when that body was discussing the
ree items now before us - these items which concern the possibl
largement of the Security Council, the Economic and Social Coun
d the International Court of Justice. However, my Delegation
stened to this important debate with close and sympathetic atte
should like at this stage to make a few brief comments.

In the Committee, the Canadian Delegation found itself
e fortunate position of being able to vote in favour of both th
olutions before the Committee. We believe that the views expr
the distinguished representative of El Salvador reflected an
vious and general interest in the Committee for their desire to
large the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council,
s allow for the rapid growth in the membership of the United
tions. Such a move would enable the newer Member States, parti
ss of Asia and Africa, to play their full role in the deliber
decisions of these two major organs of the United Nations. T
solution presented by El Salvador, however, went beyond the
cognition of the need for expanding the Councils and the simple
ough important, recommendation to the Assembly to continue to g
s problem its earnest attention. The El Salvador resolution c
r the establishment of a small committee empowered and instruct
udy the possibility of arriving at an agreement which would
cilitate amendment of the Charter so as to increase the members
these two Councils.

...We considered it unrealistic to expect any progress
achieved in this field by the proposed committee considering t
cumstances under which the latter would operate. Several repr
ives in the Committee debate shared our views in this respect,
believe it is not necessary here to repeat the various argumen
ich they set out. It was for these reasons that we abstained i
te of the Special Political Committee whether the proposed smal
should be retained or dropped. Our opinion proved not to be
t of the majority, and it became apparent during that voting
fewer than 35 delegations favoured setting up this small comm
rtly in the expectation that it could be of practical use and p
seemed to us, in order to demonstrate in some way dissatisfact
th the existing state of affairs with regard to Security Counci
OOC membership, and their hope of breaking out of the deadlock
ich has prevailed in the Assembly for so long. We sympathize w
e natural desire to take some concrete steps, even if their cha
success appear tenuous. Since so considerable a group of con-
entions and vigorous delegations wished to establish a body to
e possibility of amending the Charter so as to expand the Counc
Delegation, though with some mental reservation, in the final
the previous debate did not oppose the establishment of such a
mittee, and we are prepared to vote in the same sense today.