

Nations. He was thinking of Austria, Japan, Ireland, Spain and so on. He was also thinking of the three Communist countries: Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania. Pearson said that the United Nations could not carry out its full function unless the qualified sovereign countries of the world were made members, and that the UN should not just be a club of the Western powers.

"The history was that the Soviet Union wanted the admission of the three Communist countries and, until it could achieve this, it vetoed every attempt to bring in the others. John Foster Dulles [the U.S. Secretary of State] was adamant in his opposition to the admission of the Communist countries. Moreover, Britain and France, like the United States, didn't want to disturb the balance of power in the United Nations. France was worried that the opening up of membership would spur on the African and other colonies to attain independence: she was particularly concerned about Algeria.

"I hadn't followed that issue very carefully although I had been at the United Nations just as many times as Pearson. Nor had I seen his speech at the San Francisco commemorative meeting. At San Francisco, Molotov had invited Pearson to visit Russia. His visit would be the first time a foreign minister from the West had gone to the Soviet Union since the war; so he was anxious to go. At the last minute he called me and said, 'I'm not going to go. They are now threatening that they won't allow me to fly in an RCAF plane, as they had promised: and I want to show the flag.' Then he said, 'I wish you would go down to the UN ahead of time—Molotov is there—and discuss this with him.'

"So I went to New York and saw Molotov. When I raised this issue of the plane, Molotov said, 'Well, I get impatient,' implying that this was too small a matter for him ('I am the foreign minister of the Soviet Union. I am not going to be worried about a plane!'). Arkady Sobolev, who was the Soviet ambassador to the United Nations, saw the situation and said, 'Mr. Molotov, would you mind letting me look after that?' Mr. Molotov was glad to get rid of that little irritation.

"Then I started to leave. Molotov said, 'Oh, Mr. Martin, sit down. Let's discuss the Assembly. What do you think are the main items?' And this was just a stab in the dark on my part, for the usual items were not very spectacular; and almost instinctively—it wasn't much more than that—I said, 'We ought to do something, you know, about the new members.' He said, 'I agree'—I almost dropped—'I agree. We ought to bring in all the countries that are undivided.' 'Well,' I said, 'We've been thinking about that,' which was not true. So he said, 'Well, you think about that and go ahead and do something.'

"I went back right away to our Mission, I was so enthused. I told Bert Mackay, our able ambassador to the UN. He said, 'Oh, you can't do that. We will get in wrong with everybody.' Then I got hold of John Holmes, who was there, and told him. And he said, 'Don't drop this. This is good.' He and Geoff Murray both gave full support. I went to Ottawa and talked to [Prime Minister Louis] St. Laurent—Pearson by this time was on his way to the Soviet Union. He said, 'Well, that would be a good thing, but I don't think you will succeed.' The people in the department all thought that it was a