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DEA/2226-40

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
à l'ambassade aux États-Unis*

*Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Embassy in United States*

TELEGRAM EX-2025

Ottawa, October 18, 1952

CONFIDENTIAL

SUGGESTED PRESENCE OF CANADIAN OBSERVERS
AT THE NEXT INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Reference: Your despatch No. 2074 of September 25, 1952.

Following from Wilgress, Begins: I am very grateful to you for letting me have, in your despatch under reference, your views on this question.

2. My immediately following telegram[†] quotes memorandum of October 8 in the matter that I gave to the Minister. He had intended raising the question at the Cabinet meeting on October 9. An opportunity did not arise, however, and Mr. Pearson feels that it should now be possible to defer Cabinet consideration of the problem until after the General Assembly of the United Nations, since the Caracas Conference will be held late in 1953.

3. In the circumstances, should the State Department approach you, I should appreciate it if you would take the line that, as Mr. Pearson will be in New York for some time and as the question of Canadian attendance at the 1953 conference does not appear to be urgent at this stage, you doubt that there is much point in discussing the matter at the present time.

4. For your own information, Mr. Pearson has no strong views as to whether or not Canada should accept observer status and will be content to be guided by the views of his colleagues.

5. I should add a word of explanation about the opening words of the second paragraph of the memorandum of October 8. When Mr. Wight of the State Department was in Ottawa at a reception after the last P.J.B.D. meeting, Mr. Eberts, hoping to learn whether the State Department expected any report on our reactions to its memorandum before it approached you, said that the U.S. Embassy had mentioned to us a State Department memorandum on the O.A.S. To protect Mr. Morgan's position, it was not indicated that he had left a copy of the memorandum with us. Mr. Wight, while apparently not in the least concerned that we had been told of the memorandum, made it clear that, so far as he knew, it had been sent to the U.S. Embassy for its information, without any instructions to take it up with us, and that it was not planned to use the Embassy here as a channel for discussion of the observer proposal. The substance of the State Department's memorandum was not discussed with Mr. Wight.

6. It was as recently as October 16 that Mr. Morgan last asked whether the Department had reached any conclusion regarding the State Department's