

added that he had discussed it only with two of his diplomatic colleagues, Messrs. du Parc and Woodward, and that both had agreed with his interpretation. His main argument is that Governments have nothing to do with the designation of a Dean who, normally, is appointed by the Diplomatic Corps. According to a long-standing tradition, the Dean is either the Papal Nuncio or the senior Ambassador. Mr. di Stefano pointed out that according to this established tradition, Sir Alexander Clutterbuck could only become Dean were he a full-fledged Ambassador.

3. I told the Italian Ambassador that none of his comments were irrelevant and that if he so wished he could make a good diplomatic case against the action taken by the Canadian Government. I added that taking the accords of the Congress of Vienna as a landmark in world history he could go a step further and make a good legal case against Canada ever having become an independent country. I further pointed out that he was familiar enough with Canadian policy to realize that in the slow process of constitutional evolution leading to a clarification of our international status, there were and there would continue to be problems, the solution of which might not always be tidy. In such circumstances, we were sure that our friends would understand and that this was one of those cases where we hoped we could rely on him.

4. Mr. di Stefano assured me that these considerations had come to his mind and that as a matter of fact he had appended them to our Note when he transmitted copy of it to his own Government. I told him that if it were at all possible, the best policy might be to take that line also in private conversations with his colleagues. God or/and Machiavelli only knows or know whether he will do so.

J. L[ÉGER]