

measure.

JK: Now, you called him Mike Pearson. That is Lester Pearson?

Epstein: Yes, everybody called him Mike. As a matter of fact he calls his memoirs Mike Pearson. You might take a look at his memoirs. He would probably tell that story. I was very friendly with John Holmes who died just a short time ago. He was Pearson's personal assistant and traveled with him all over. He had been charge d'affairs in Moscow when Pearson was there. Geoffrey Murray was a more junior fellow. He was here with the delegation permanently at the UN Canadian Mission. So, it was John Holmes and Geoffrey Murray. Pearson came down with this idea and Hammarskjöld said, "It's not in the Charter. How are you going to get the parties to agree? Who is going to provide forces for this?"

So, Mike Pearson went back to Ottawa and got it approved by the Cabinet and came back to Hammarskjöld and said, "Look, I've got a piece of paper in my pocket that says that we will put up forces." Hammarskjöld's eyes opened up and he snapped into it. He thought the whole thing was feasible then.

JK: Why would he think it was more feasible with the Canadian forces?

Epstein: Because nobody had forces. Once the Canadian forces were available it was different. The Canadians had a reputation for being good, positive members. We had been involved in every single observer mission and forces, with