

supported increased aid to the people of Latin America "through the non-political Inter-American Bank".

b) Prime Minister's policy statement, 1968

Although the Prime Minister's foreign policy statement of May 29, 1968, while alluding to the desirability of developing relations with Latin America, made no specific reference to OAS, some of the comments provoked by it touched on the possibility of Canada's entering the organization. Writing in the Montreal Star on June 29, 1968, Leslie Roberts said that it was not the time for Canada to join the OAS, "for the excellent reason that we would look to many outsiders as an echo of the United States". Entry was also opposed by an academic in a letter to the Toronto Globe and Mail in August.

About the same time a citizen who had been born in Latin America of Canadian parents wrote to the minister opposing entry on the grounds that Latin American expectations that Canada might "neutralize" or "influence" U.S. involvement in OAS would probably be disappointed, and that the U.S. would probably "absorb" Canada in its involvements.

Clive Baxter (Financial Post, July 13, 1968) said that to oppose U.S. interests within the OAS would be to risk poisoning Ottawa-Washington relations - and the prize wasn't worth that cost.

c) The Ministerial Mission, 1968

Editorials regarding the ministerial mission at the time of its departure in late October 1968 included some speculation on the OAS question. Some of this is mentioned en passant