

Canada were growing year by year and that he would like very much to be able to have an exchange of diplomatic missions as soon as it could be conveniently arranged.

6. Mr. Pearson said that he had had an opportunity to review the correspondence on this subject. He wished the Minister would not regard our failure to establish diplomatic relations as an indication of coolness on our part toward the Colombians or take it that we regarded as more important our relations with those countries with which we had already established diplomatic relations. Looking back on the pattern, it appeared that the expansion of our relations in Latin America had been somewhat haphazard. Mr. Pearson said that he hoped that it would be possible for us to make arrangements to establish a diplomatic mission in Colombia in the not too direct future.

7. Mr. Zuleta asked if there was some official in the Department with whom he might speak on this subject. Mr. Pearson said that he might speak to Mr. Claxton about the matter and also to the Deputy Under-Secretary, Mr. Reid.

8. In concluding the interview, Mr. Pearson expressed his regrets at being unable to attend the dinner which was being given the Minister at the Country Club that evening. He wished the Minister all success in his negotiations for securing a group of Canadian experts to go down to Colombia.

[A.R. MENZIES]

3^e PARTIE/PART 3

PANAMA

1067.

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*Note du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
pour le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

[Ottawa], December 14, 1949

RECOGNITION OF THE PRESENT DE FACTO GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA

On November 19th, a governmental crisis arose with the attempt of the President of Panama, Dr. Manuel Chanis, to remove from office the Chief of Police, Colonel José Remon, on charges of involvement with illegal monopolies. Col. Remon refused to be deposed and issued an ultimatum to the President, demanding his resignation and threatening to occupy the Presidency if he did not agree. When the President refused, Col. Remon ordered the Police to surround the Palace, and the President eventually agreed to resign. The Chief of Police then installed his cousin Roberto Chiari, First Vice-President, as President.

2. On November 22, in accordance with the Constitution of Panama, the National Assembly debated President Chanis' resignation and at first the majority were in