

in the Court at a time when both Canada and the United States are arguing a very important boundary case. I think, just to keep it in perspective, we ought to recognize that other countries, some other countries, do not accept the jurisdiction of the World Court ever. For example, as I now, recollect the Soviet Union has never accepted the jurisdiction of the World Court and other countries from time to time exclude certain aspects of their domestic or international affairs from the Court, so that while we may deplore this action, it may be, or we may not like it, it's not new.

Q: Could it have some affect on that boundary dispute that's about to go before the World Court, the dispute between Nova Scotia and Massachusetts?

DPM/SSEA: The case is being argued, and I don't see where it will have any affect. The case ought to be argued on its merits and it shouldn't have any affect.

Q: Mr. MacEachen if I can just take you back to Nicaragua, Was it an embarrassment for you to be there at the time when there was so much controversy raging in Washington itself? You were there as the Foreign Minister or the Minister of State for External Affairs of Canada. Was that an embarrassment for you?

DPM/SSEA: No it wasn't an embarrassment. In fact, the rhetoric employed in North America, both in Canada and in the United States, was more vigorous and more striking than the rhetoric employed in Nicaragua, surprisingly enough. Not to say that they didn't take a serious view of the matter, quite the contrary, they regard it as an aggression. But it didn't seem to strike the same note of stridency in Nicaragua as it did in North America, whatever the reasons. They say that they're accustomed not only to heat politically, but also climatically and maybe they've become accustomed to remain cool in these adverse circumstances. But it didn't cause any embarrassment to Canada because Canada has, I think, made it quite clear that we take a different view of events in Central America, different from the United States. We're not attempting to isolate Nicaragua. We are attempting to understand the social transformations that are taking place. We are providing development assistance to Nicaragua and we are striving to encourage Nicaragua to take additional steps in completion of the goals which the revolution set for itself, and certainly there is a way to go on that score yet. I think we have to acknowledge that changes, required changes, have taken place in Nicaragua, that improvements have taken place, but that the reality is still rather complex and it's not either black or white. What we have to do, it seems to me, a country like Canada, is to maintain relationships with Nicaragua and encourage them to continue on the road to democratization. They haven't had elections in Nicaragua yet and I don't see how any country, including Nicaragua, can reconcile its internal conflicts and the varying opinions that are expressed unless there are genuine and open elections that will permit the people to express themselves.