

Composition of the Canadian Delegation

The Canadian delegation was headed by The Right Honourable L.S. St. Laurent, Secretary of State for External Affairs. The other representatives were: The Right Honourable J.L. Ilsley, Minister of Justice; Senator the Honourable Norman P. Lambert, Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on External Affairs; Mr. Walter A. Tucker, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Veterans Affairs; Mr. Joseph Bradette, Chairman of the House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs.

The five alternate representatives were: Mr. L.B. Pearson, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs; Dr. George F. Davidson, Deputy Minister of National Health and Welfare; Mr. L.R. Beaudoin, M.P.; Mr. Sidney D. Pierce, Canadian Ambassador in Mexico; Mr. Escott Reid, now Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Instead of including members of the Opposition among the delegates as had been done for some previous Canadian delegations to international conferences during the formative stage of the United Nations, a new category of "parliamentary advisers" was established. One Progressive Conservative Senator and one Progressive Conservative Member of Parliament, a C.C.F., a Social Credit and a Liberal Member of Parliament were named to this group. The advice of the parliamentary advisers was sought and considered before any decision was made. The Government, however, accepted full responsibility for the policy of the delegation and made it clear that it did not expect opposition parties either to share this responsibility or to refrain from criticizing the decisions taken.

Other advisers were drawn from the Department of External Affairs and other government departments.

BALKANS

On December 3, 1946, Greece brought before the Security Council the problem of guerrilla warfare along its northern border, alleging that assistance was being given by Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. In the ensuing debate, these countries denied the Greek charges, blaming the disturbances on a reactionary Greek administration, presence of foreign troops in Greece and the struggle for liberty that was being waged by free Greeks. The Security Council therefore set up a Commission of Investigation consisting of all members of the Council plus representatives of the four countries concerned. Its report was presented to the Council in June. The majority concluded that Yugoslavia, and to a lesser extent, Albania and Bulgaria, had supported the guerrilla warfare. The minority (the U.S.S.R. and Poland) defended the three accused countries and stated that the evidence supplied was untrustworthy. As no proposal could be agreed on in the Security Council, the matter was put on the agenda of the Assembly.

A majority of the members of the Assembly supported the findings of the majority group in the Commission. By a vote of 40 to 6 with 11 abstentions, the Assembly created a special Balkan Committee consisting of 11 members (representatives of Australia, Brazil, China, France, Mexico, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the United Kingdom and the United States, with places held open for the Soviet Union and Poland). The Committee, with headquarters in Salonika, was set up to maintain watch on Greece's northern border, observe the compliance by Greece, Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia with the Assembly's recommendation that they co-operate in peaceful settlement of their disputes and be available to assist the four governments concerned in implementing such recommendations.