

5. Dr. Zuleta, who had been President of the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations and Chairman of the Headquarters Committee spoke in glowing terms of his colleague on these two bodies, Mr. Wilgress. I said that I knew that Mr. Wilgress reciprocated his feelings and that I would be most happy to inform Mr. Wilgress of Dr. Zuleta's kind remarks.

E[SCOTT] R[REID]

1066.

DEA/3104-40

Note du chef par intérim, direction des États-Unis et de l'Extrême-Orient

Memorandum by Acting Head, American and Far Eastern Division

Ottawa, July 21, 1949

INTERVIEW OF COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WITH THE
HONOURABLE L.B. PEARSON

Dr. Eduardo *Zuleta* Angel, Minister of Foreign Affairs for Colombia, accompanied by Mr. Jose Camacho, Counsellor of the Colombian Embassy in Washington, called on Mr. Pearson at 4.15 on July 18. Mr. A.R. Menzies was present. Dr. Zuleta said that he knew that Mr. Pearson's time was short before starting out on a trip but that he appreciated the opportunity to come and have a few words with him.

2. Dr. Zuleta recalled that, when he was President of the United Nations Preparatory Commission in London, in 1946, Mr. St. Laurent, then Secretary of State for External Affairs, had had some very kind words to say about his services which he had always treasured. He had worked very closely during the Preparatory Commission with Mr. Wilgress and with Mr. Escott Reid. Indeed, at all meetings of the United Nations, Colombian Delegations had been greatly impressed with the idealistic but sensible approach of the Canadian Delegations. While there were no direct diplomatic relations between Colombia and Canada, Colombians regarded Canadians with the friendliest of feelings. He asked Mr. Pearson to convey to the Prime Minister these sentiments.

3. Mr. Pearson said that the sentiments which Dr. Zuleta had expressed were very cordially reciprocated. He recalled meeting Dr. Zuleta himself in the Delegates' Lounge of the United Nations. Canadians regarded Colombia as one of the most democratic and enlightened of the South American Republics.

4. Dr. Zuleta said that he had made this trip to Ottawa on very short notice, to try to complete arrangements to obtain the assistance of Canadian experts to assist in revising the Colombian electoral and identity card system. He looked forward to having conversations with the experts and officials directly interested in these arrangements. Mr. Pearson said that we were only too glad to give the Colombians any help of this kind that we could.

5. Dr. Zuleta then turned to the question of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Colombia and Canada. He recalled that, on earlier occasions when this matter had been discussed between our two Governments, we had pointed out that personnel shortages impaired our programme of expansion of diplomatic relations. The Minister said that commerce and other relations between Colombia and