

INTRODUCTION

The terms of reference for this study were set forth by the Under Secretary of State for External Affairs on May 1, 1976, as follows:

"The purpose of the research is to prepare a study of the extent, focus and changes of the Canadian public's interest in Latin America, and the extent to which this interest has been affected by Canadian policy over the past ten years. In particular, your study should include an analysis of the Canadian public's reaction over the last ten years to the possibility of Canadian membership in the Organization of American States."

The study covers the period from mid-1967 to the end of 1976. It is a sequel to a study on the same subject by Professor J.C.M. Ogelsby which was submitted to the Department of External Affairs on September 15, 1967, and subsequently incorporated as an appendix in Professor Ogelsby's book, Gringos from the Far North (Toronto: Macmillan Co. of Canada Ltd., 1976). It is based on material found in the relevant files of the Department of External Affairs; in the Debates of the Senate and the House of Commons; in the proceedings and reports of parliamentary committees; in books, pamphlets, periodicals and newspapers; and on information obtained through personal interviews. Some, possibly many, recorded expressions of opinion have been missed. Many, but not all, Canadian periodicals have been scanned. Reliance has had to be placed on External Affairs files of clippings from selected newspapers rather than on a perusal of every