

subject not only to approval by the countries concerned, but also to their being satisfied with the remaining Plans, when they emerge.

27. The last week of the Conference was given over to the task of drafting a suitable text for the Agreement, now known as the Mexico City Agreement. At the outset of the Conference, Canada was elected to the vice-chairmanship of the Drafting Committee (Committee 8). When the Committee finally met in the closing days of the Conference, this post was filled by Mr. Arthur Blanchette of this Embassy.

28. When the work of drafting began, Soviet tactics became very aggressive. Repeated attempts were made to have the text of the Agreement tally with Soviet concepts of general Conference procedure, especially as concerned unanimity. These were constantly rejected by the Conference, but this did not stop the U.S.S.R. from pressing her demands. For instance, when veto powers were ruled out, the Soviet Union attempted to have decisions carry by an 85% majority. Had this proposal been accepted, it might have set a precedent to be pressed tenaciously by the Soviet at future meetings of the ITU.

29. Throughout the Conference, Canada exerted considerable influence on various Commonwealth countries. During the initial stages, Canada looked after the interests of Eire whose delegate, after his arrival, almost invariably followed our cue and very loyally remained within the fold of the Commonwealth family during the Conference. The Australian delegate gave Canada his proxy and usually accepted our views on questions submitted to a vote.

30. By and large, the Commonwealth nations did quite well at the Conference, although by no means acting as a unit. All saw their "minimum" requirements satisfied. Of the Commonwealth countries, perhaps Pakistan achieved the most gratifying results, since she came to the Conference with *no* transmitters in operation and received a final total of 141 channel hours. These were obtained largely through the efforts and brilliant debating powers of the Chief of the Pakistan delegation, Mr. Ahmed Bokhari, who achieved considerable influence over the Conference by his timely and conciliatory speeches. He successfully played off the United Kingdom, India and the Soviet Union against each other to foster his own aims.⁹² (It may be of interest to you to know that Mr. Bokhari will be spending a few days in Canada next June on his return trip to Pakistan. He will be the guest of the CBC.)

31. No split was visible in the Soviet bloc. The Yugoslav delegate, in effect, toed the Soviet line unwaveringly. The Czechs, however, were much less vehement in their support than had been expected, although this may have been due to the personality of their delegates rather than to coolness to Soviet leadership.

I have, etc.

C.P. HEBERT

⁹² It is worth noting that, throughout the Conference, the United Kingdom was much more wont to support India than Pakistan.