

5. That question of Latin-American reaction seems to be the principal factor. Another important one is the suggestion made in the U.S. memorandum that Canadian membership could make a valuable contribution in various ways. This is the point which appealed strongly to Mr. Wrong (paragraph 3 of his despatch). It deserves serious consideration. A third is the possibility, often mentioned in previous discussions, that we might find ourselves in an awkward position if compelled to take a stand one way or the other in any controversy between the United States and one, or more, of all of the Latin-American members.

6. Our conclusion is while we should not hastily rule out the possibility of accepting observer status we must not accept it until we have studied these and all other factors and have decided that we are aware of all possible consequences and prepared to accept them.

7. I do not know whether the Ambassador will fully agree with what I have said here; I understand he inclines toward caution in approaching closer to O.A.S. but I have had no opportunity to consult him. I hope you were able to get his opinion in New York. If he wishes to make any further comments from here he can use either the December courier or an air telegram.

8. We assume you will keep us advised of developments; we shall be interested.

M.T. STEWART

1047.

DEA/2226-40

*L'ambassadeur à Cuba  
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
Ambassador in Cuba  
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

DESPATCH D-367

Havana, November 20, 1952

CONFIDENTIAL

OBSERVER STATUS FOR CANADA AT 10TH INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
TO BE HELD IN VENEZUELA

Reference: Your despatch No. X-234 of October 28, 1952.<sup>10</sup>

I should like to make only one point concerning the desirability of Canada sending an Observer to Caracas next year. It seems to me that the invitation should be considered in the light of the fact that Canada will very shortly be establishing diplomatic relations with three countries which are members of the OAS and that a Goodwill and Trade Mission headed by a senior Cabinet Minister will tour through Latin America early in the new year. Taken alone, these events could indicate merely an increased Canadian interest in trade relations with Latin America. However, if in addition Canada accepts an

<sup>10</sup>Le document 1045./Document 1045.