

tions was to both countries. During the past few years, the United Nations and a very large number of international organizations have been established. In view of the sympathy between Canada and Colombia and of Canada's importance, Colombia wished to make even more effective in future the exchange of views between our two countries on the problems which arise in the organizations. He mentioned in particular, questions of elections to the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council and the governing bodies of other international organizations. Colombia had found that the establishment of direct diplomatic relations facilitated greatly these useful exchanges of views with other countries. Dr. Zuleta hoped that it might be possible for Canada within the next year to open a mission in Colombia. He suggested that further discussions on this matter might be pursued through our Embassies in Washington.

3. I said that as both the Minister and Mr. Claxton had already assured him we in Canada are very conscious of the great importance to Canada of closer relations of all kinds with Colombia. We regretted, for the reasons which he had mentioned, that it had not been possible for us hitherto to establish a diplomatic mission in Colombia. I said that I could assure him that the Minister hoped very much that it might be possible for us to make arrangements for the establishment of a diplomatic mission in Colombia in the near future. The Minister had mentioned to me his conversation with Dr. Zuleta on the subject; since he was about to leave Ottawa for two weeks it had not been possible for him to discuss the matter at length with me before his departure. We would, however, raise the matter with him immediately upon his return to Ottawa and he would, no doubt, wish to discuss it with his colleagues in Cabinet. I expressed my great regret that, in the absence of the Minister, it was not possible to be more specific than this, but I reiterated the hope of the Department that in the near future we could establish direct diplomatic relations with Colombia. Speaking personally, I said that I thought that his suggestion that this might be done during the year 1950 might well prove to be practicable.<sup>3</sup>

4. During the discussion, I commented on his remarks on the desirability of exchanges of views between our two countries on matters coming before international organizations. I said that he, like us, must have been impressed by the fact that the democratic group of countries had, in the past, suffered in the United Nations from the fact that there had not been effective enough preliminary discussion of questions among them. We felt it was important that efforts should be made in future by the democratic countries to work out between them general agreement on common policy on important issues. We have been very happy in the past with the excellent relations between our Delegations and I shared his hope that these relations will be even more intimate in the future.

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<sup>3</sup> Note marginale/Marginal note:

*Mr. Reid.* My feeling is that the government will not be enthusiastic about a recommendation to open a Mission in Colombia in the near future—nor indeed any new Missions anywhere with[out] pretty specific reasons based on pretty evident, tangible and immediate Canadian interest shown. They are already committed to Pakistan which is a special case, but any other proposals will be very sceptically received. The memo to the Minister sh[oul]d state the case for C[olombia] in concrete terms with special reference to any commercial aspects A. H[ene]y]