

CANADA AND THE ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICAN STATES

Discussion not related to events

In the period covered by this study the best case - and almost the only reasoned case - for Canadian participation in OAS was made by Health Macquarrie, M.P., who has an academic background; and the most cogent arguments against participation were made by academics and by the Toronto Globe and Mail. Macquarrie, a perennial advocate of participation, made the following points in the Dalhousie Review, Spring 1968:

- a) While there is no great surge of opinion in favour of OAS membership, neither is there a large body of opinion opposed;
- b) Canada should seek to strengthen ties with an area of great potential that is bound to play a decisive role in world affairs;
- c) If trouble erupts in Latin America and spreads, Canada will be involved whether or not it is in the OAS and should contribute to the consultative machinery now existing;
- d) Canada has asserted and must continue to assert the right to disagree with the United States on matters of foreign policy (vide Cuba). Canada's right to disagree is as important to the position of the United States before the world as it is to