



CANADA

# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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## CANADA AND LATIN AMERICA

**Speech by the Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at the Canadian Inter-American Association Dinner, Ottawa, May 31, 1967.**

It is a great pleasure for me to be with you this evening, at this dinner given by the President of the Canadian Inter-American Association for the diplomatic representatives in Canada of the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

I should like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Association, to its leaders, and to its work which, I am sure, will steadily grow in importance. Organizations such as the Canadian Inter-American Association, representing as it does a wide cross-section of those in Canada who are interested in Central and South America and the Caribbean, perform a most valuable service by adding an extra dimension to Canada's range of contacts with other countries.

Everyone here is, I am sure, well aware of how Canada's relations with Latin America and the Caribbean have so far developed, and what activities are now more or less commonplace. A brief summary of these relations would include the following items:

- (1) Diplomatic relations with all countries in the Hemisphere.
- (2) A significant trade with many of them, and substantial and growing investments.
- (3) Development assistance, in the form of loans made through the Inter-American Development Bank, programmes of aid for the Commonwealth Caribbean countries, and export-credit financing.
- (4) A common concern with international affairs, in which there is evidence of a fundamental similarity of outlook on most of the basic issues which face the world community.
- (5) Increasingly frequent participation in meetings of regional intergovernmental organizations such as the Economic Commission for Latin America, and in conferences of professional, scientific