

hemisphere; moreover, I do not think that we would wish to identify ourselves too closely with those differences which arise from time to time between Latin American nations, except in those instances where Canadian interests might be directly involved.

4. If you agree,² I attach for your consideration a letter to Mr. Elliott along the above lines.†

A.D.P. H[EENEY]

2^e PARTIE/PART 2

COLOMBIE
COLOMBIA

1065.

DEA/3104-40

*Note du sous-secrétaire d'État adjoint aux Affaires extérieures
pour le sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

Ottawa, July 20, 1949

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CANADIAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN COLOMBIA

When Dr. Zuleta, the Foreign Minister of Colombia, called on the Minister on Monday afternoon, July 18, he raised with him the question of the establishment of direct diplomatic relations between Colombia and Canada. Colombia has raised this previously in 1942, 1946 and 1948. Mr. Menzies, who was present at the interview, is preparing a note for you on the subject. The Minister informed Dr. Zuleta that, if he wished to pursue the matter further, he might take it up with me. As a result, Dr. Zuleta called on me this morning at 10:00 o'clock. He first of all expressed his very great gratitude to the Canadian Government for the assistance which had been given him in arranging for a group of Canadian officials to visit Colombia to assist the Colombian Government in its efforts to improve their electoral system. I replied that the Canadian Government had been happy to assist in putting him in touch with the Canadian officials concerned and that we appreciated very greatly this demonstration of esteem for Canada which Colombia had shown in turning to Canadians for this purpose.

2. Dr. Zuleta then went on to raise the question of diplomatic relations. He referred to his conversation with the Minister. He recalled that previously we had been unable to agree to Colombia's proposal because of the shortage of personnel and budgetary difficulties. He had understood from the Minister that shortage of personnel was no longer so great an obstacle. He stressed how important he considered the establishment of closer relations and particularly closer diplomatic rela-

² La lettre fut envoyée le 26 août.

The letter was sent on August 26.