

2<sup>e</sup> PARTIE/PART 2  
ORGANISATION DES ÉTATS AMÉRICAINS  
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

1040.

DEA/2226-40

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
à l'ambassadeur aux États-Unis  
Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Ambassador in United States*

DESPATCH X-1456

Ottawa, September 13, 1952

CONFIDENTIAL

POSSIBLE INVITATION TO CANADA TO ACCEPT  
OBSERVER STATUS AT 10TH INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF THE  
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES TO BE HELD  
IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA IN 1953

Attached is a State Department memorandum, copy of which was left with the American Division by Mr. J.H. Morgan, Counsellor of the United States Embassy in Ottawa, for informational purposes only. However, it poses a new and very interesting question as to whether Canada would attend the next meeting of the Organization of American States as an *observer*, and it gives the background of U.S. views at an official level on Canadian participation in the OAS.

2. You will observe this memorandum has been prepared for background use in connection with talks which either Mr. Matthews or Mr. Miller intends to have with you. Mr. Morgan was not advised by Washington whether these discussions had yet been held with you, but we thought you might like to have their departmental memorandum for early consideration.

3. In Mr. Morgan's informal talk with the American Division, he inquired as to what our views might be and he was told that we would give consideration to the problem and advise him shortly as to our reaction. He was told of our past relations with the OAS and informed of the public statements made by the Prime Minister and Minister in 1949, bringing him up to date by a resumé of our most recent statements of policy as set out in our secret letter of instructions to the Canadian Ambassador in Brazil, being,

a) that Canada is not prepared at present to join the Organization of American States, but that we do take a certain part in the inter-american system of organizations and technical conferences,

b) that Canada is not seeking an invitation to join the OAS,

c) that for the time being we prefer not to receive an invitation,

d) that knowledge of the OAS or the Pan-American Union is very limited in Canada and that there does not seem to be any pressing reason at the moment which would prompt us to change our attitude to the inter-american system,