

Remarks by Ambassador Luigi R. Einaudi
On the Resolution Taking Note of the
Inter-American Juridical Committee Opinion Rendered
in Response to Permanent Council Resolution 586

September 16, 1992

Mr. Chairman:

As member delegations will remember, my Government did not concur in Permanent Council Resolution 586.

Nor do we agree with the August 15 "opinion" by the Inter-American Juridical Committee.

My Government believes that the separate explanation of vote of Committee member Seymour Rubin raises serious concerns regarding the Juridical Committee's jurisdiction on this matter. My Government considers those concerns valid, and believes they have implications for all OAS member states.

At the same time, my delegation is prepared to join the proposed consensus to "take note" of the Committee's opinion. We do so out of our respect for the inter-American system and because we regard the phrase "to take note of" as having neutral effect with respect to the legal implications of the Juridical Committee's opinion.

For these reasons, my Government finds it possible to join today's consensus without regarding this action as establishing any legal precedent, or as implying that we acquiesce in the reasoning or conclusions contained in the Juridical Committee's opinion.

In a spirit similar to that of the distinguished Ambassador of Mexico, Mr. Chairman, the respect and cooperation between the United States and Mexico -- like the respect and cooperation between the United States and all members of the inter-American system -- is strong enough, and resilient enough, to overcome differences even as fundamental as those involved in this unfortunate case. Thank you.