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OTTAWA,
April 9 1952.

Dear Mr. Henry:

Your letter of April 3rd regarding the request of the Rev. Vasil Mihailoff touches on an interesting and tricky problem. As you know, Macedonia is one of the most contentious areas in Europe and presents a bewildering picture of rival movements, aims, language groups, traditions and so on.

The Macedonian Political Organization to which Rev. Mihailoff belongs favours, I am informed, an autonomous Macedonia (absorbing present-day Yugoslav and Greek Macedonia) with a strong pro-Bulgarian orientation. It is naturally not for us at this time to take sides on the complex issues dividing the various Macedonian groups. In particular, we would not wish to appear to show friendliness towards a group which, though apparently anti-Communist, is pro-Bulgarian and hostile to Greece, a country with which we maintain the friendliest relations and with which we are allied in N.A.T.O, and Yugoslavia, a country whose continuing survival against Soviet pressure is in the general interests of peace and security.

I am sure you will appreciate my desire not to extend too friendly a hand to an organization wishing to bring charges - perhaps unfounded and certainly hostile - against our ally, Greece.

Charles Henry, Esq., M.P.,
Member for Toronto-Rosedale,
House of Commons,
OTTAWA.

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May I suggest, therefore, that you tell Rev. Mr. Mihailoff that Mr. Johnson, the head of our Permanent Delegation to the United Nations, is overwhelmed with work at present, which is indeed the case, and that it might be best if he and his organization were to submit their brief to him by mail. The brief will, of course, receive just as careful attention as it would if delivered personally.

Yours sincerely,

(SIGNED) L. B. PEARSON

Secretary of State
for External Affairs.

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