

AIDE-MEMOIRE

The great concern of the Canadian Government regarding proposals to transport oil by tanker from Alaska to the Puget Sound area has been made known to the United States Government on a number of occasions during the course of this year. The most recent occasion was at a meeting of United States and Canadian officials in Washington on June 29. At that meeting a proposal was elaborated in an Aide-Memoire for detailed consultations to be held as soon as possible, as had been discussed by Canadian Ministers with the Secretary of State Mr. Rogers on June 10, to explore the various implications of the proposed oil movements.

In a response of July 9 the Department of State suggested that, as an alternative to holding further meetings at that time, any additional information which the Canadian authorities might have to offer be conveyed in written form. It remains the Canadian view that it would be advantageous to discuss certain specific aspects of the likely environmental impact of the implementation of proposed plans for oil movements from Alaska but in the meantime certain technical and other material has been prepared touching upon the principal questions raised in the Canadian Embassy's Aide-Memoire of June 29.

Attached as Appendix I is a study entitled "The Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Oil Transport Between Valdez and Cherry Point Refinery". This document is accompanied by a general commentary (Appendix II) highlighting certain conclusions suggested in the study covering Canadian water-front property values in the area and postulated costs in the event of a mishap to a supertanker in the Strait of