

CHAPITRE XIII/CHAPTER XIII
EXTRÊME-ORIENT
FAR EAST

PREMIÈRE PARTIE/PART 1

CHINE
CHINA

SECTION A

ACTIVITÉS ÉLECTORALES CHINOISES AU CANADA
CHINESE ELECTORAL ACTIVITIES IN CANADA

1106.

DEA/9820-40

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

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

SECRET

[Ottawa], July 15, 1948

CHINESE POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN CANADA

You will recall that on April 12 I sent you a memorandum† regarding elections of representatives of Overseas Chinese in Canada to the Chinese National Assembly and the Legislative Yuan which had taken place in December and January. I pointed out that the United Kingdom, French and Siamese Governments had protested to the Chinese Government that the extra-territorial application to their territories of the Chinese electoral law involved an unwarrantable interference with the sovereignty of the local territorial administration concerned. The Chinese had accordingly desisted from holding elections in those territories. I also informed you that the Department of Justice had indicated that the holding of these elections in Canada by the Chinese Consular Service was not contrary to any positive Canadian law. However, the Legal Advisor of this Department is of the opinion that the Chinese authorities should not engage in the application of the Chinese electoral law to Canada without the permission of the Canadian Government. I proposed, if you concurred, to call in the Chinese Ambassador and, in a friendly way, let him know that the Canadian Government did not approve such activities and ask for his assurance that no further attempt would be made to apply China's electoral law in Canada.

2. In commenting on this memorandum you agreed that Chinese residents of Canada should not constitute a constituency to send elected representatives to their National Assembly and Legislative Yuan. However, you could see no objection to a