

To the best of my knowledge, no access to official material was denied me. No attempt was made to influence me in the selection, rejection or arrangement of the volume's documents, except in two instances. First, no documents concerning the abdication of His late Majesty, Edward VIII are included in this volume. This is in keeping with a Commonwealth agreement not to make public the abdication files. The result is that the section dealing with the death and accession of the Monarch in Chapter I contains a most obvious gap. In the second instance, the editor was requested to delete a single document concerning smuggling lest it cause embarrassment to people still living. I agreed. Since I accepted the first restriction without complaint and agreed to the second, I accept, as an independent scholar, full responsibility for the contents of this volume.

I should like to take the opportunity that an "Introduction" affords to pay a debt of gratitude to scholars who edited the earlier volumes of *Documents on Canadian External Relations*. Their work was of great value to me in the preparation of my own. In particular, I should like to thank the editor of Volumes Four and Five, Professor A. I. Inglis, for so freely giving of his time and valuable advice. Mr. Gordon Hilborn, of the Department's Historical Division, must be singled out for his scrupulous checking of and advice on the editorial detail of this Volume. Also, MM. Arthur Blanchette and G. R. Blanchet have made valuable contributions to the Volume's French editorial apparatus. My greatest debt, however, is to my research and editorial assistants, (Mrs.) Gail Devlin and Mr. Mark Collins, whose contribution to the production of this Volume was of a very high standard. To a number of summer students and secretaries and typists, I am further indebted. In this, as in every other serious historical work to which I have put my hand, I have enjoyed the encouragement of that distinguished student of international affairs, F. H. Soward, Dean Emeritus of Graduate Studies at the University of British Columbia.

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