

No. 3

C157446

FROM: <sup>Rt Hon. Mr.</sup> THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA, OTTAWA  
TO: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING,  
WINDSOR CASTLE, ENGLAND

Most Secret

Ottawa, March 29, 1940

Telegram

Cypher No.

I should be grateful if you would place before  
The King, for His <sup>Majesty's</sup> perusal, the following text of a  
letter addressed to The Earl of Athlone. If the letter  
meets with His Majesty's approval, I would be obliged  
if you would be so kind as to have a copy of the text  
sent immediately to Lord Athlone with word that the  
original is being sent to him by mail.

*Office of the Prime Minister, Canada, Ottawa, March 29, 1940*  
QUOTE My dear Lord Athlone: I have been  
greatly pleased to receive word from The King that His  
Majesty believed that you would be prepared to give  
favourable consideration to an offer of appointment as  
Governor General of Canada, and that, if made, His  
Majesty would be very ready to approve the recommendation.

Before receiving this pleasing assurance from  
The King, I had drafted a letter to The King asking His  
Majesty's approval of the appointment of yourself to  
this office, should it be possible to obtain your  
acceptance of the offer if made.

At a meeting of the Cabinet yesterday afternoon,  
the first to be held since the general elections of  
Tuesday last, the 26th instant, I discussed with my  
colleagues the advice to be tendered The King as to  
Lord Tweedsmuir's successor in the office of Governor  
General. I am sure you will be pleased to know that  
when I mentioned to my colleagues my intention to submit  
your name to The King for his approval, the proposed