

114.

DEA/5930-40

Le Premier ministre au Président des États-Unis
Prime Minister to President of United States

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Ottawa, October 26, 1943

My dear Mr. President,

I have been giving further thought to the suggestion which we mentioned at our meeting last spring that the time had now come when it might be desirable to raise the Canadian Legation in Washington and the United States Legation in Ottawa to the rank of Embassies. I have concluded that such a change would be welcome and that the sooner it can be brought about the better its effect will be. I do not, of course, intend that this change in title would mean an alteration in the Canadian representation in Washington; Leighton [McCarthy] would only alter his style from Canadian Minister to Canadian Ambassador. I am sure that there will be universal public recognition that the importance of the relations between Canada and the United States amply warrants an exchange of Embassies.

I should be glad if you would let me have a personal word, as soon as possible, confirming my impression that this proposal is acceptable to you and that you are in accord with my view that it should be carried out without delay. When I know this, I shall immediately take the necessary steps to bring it into effect.

Yours sincerely,

W. L. MACKENZIE KING

115.

DEA/5930-40

Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures au secrétaire aux Dominions
Secretary of State for External Affairs to Dominions Secretary

TELEGRAM 172

Ottawa, November 2, 1943

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL. Following for your Prime Minister from Prime Minister, Begins: The Canadian Government has been considering raising the Canadian Legation in Washington to the rank of Embassy and has now decided that such a change would be desirable. You will recall that this matter was discussed with the President in your presence last spring and I have now been in touch with him again on the question. The change would, of course, be reciprocal, involving raising the United States Legation in Ottawa to an embassy.

It is probable that steps will be taken to have the change in rank made at a very early date. No change in personnel is contemplated.

The creation of a Canadian embassy in Washington may foreshadow a similar change in the status of other Canadian legations. Ends.