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September 4, 1940.

Department of External Affairs,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Dear Sirs:

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of Miss. Florence I. Patterson of Estevan, Saskatchewan.

She has been for some time very anxious to join some unit where she could be of some service in the active prosecution of the war. As long ago as last May she wrote to the Department of National Defence and was advised by the Director of Auxiliary Service that there was at that time no active service organization in Canada for Women other than Nursing Sisters. It is evident that there are none yet. Miss. Patterson accordingly wrote to the Commandant of the Auxiliary Territorial Service for Women to the War Office in London, England. She wrote on May 21st last and in due course she received a reply dated the 6th of June, a copy of which I enclose.

Immediately she got that reply she made application for a passport and after unreasonable and unnecessary delay she received a passport which reached her about the end of July.

In view of the time that had elapsed between the 6th of June, which was the date the letter was written to her from the War Office in London, and the receipt of her passport, Miss. Patterson considered it advisable to make sure that she would still be accepted, so she wrote again to London under date of July 31st explaining the reason she had not been able to get away sooner and asking that she be cabled a reply to her letter. She received the cable which is dated August 16th

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