

1294.

DEA/7663-40

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
à l'ambassadeur aux États-Unis
Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Ambassador in United States*

TELETYPE EX-1240

Ottawa, April 3, 1945

American Ambassador has conveyed an invitation from the President to the Canadian Government to be represented in forthcoming discussions on overall supply problems. Invitation has been accepted and we shall be represented by Minister of Agriculture and the Minister for Reconstruction. Date of meetings has not yet been fixed but American Ambassador thought that they would begin in Washington at end of this week or beginning of next.²²²

We have also been invited to be represented at preparatory talks on a technical level which are to begin in Washington on Thursday, April 5th. It is not yet settled what officials will go down from Ottawa for these discussion.²²³

My immediately following telegram† contains text of agreed communique† about visit of Lyttelton and Lewellin, who are returning to Washington today.

1295.

PCO

*Extrait des Conclusions du Cabinet
Extract from Cabinet Conclusions*

TOP SECRET

Ottawa, April 6, 1945

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MEAT SHORTAGE; RATIONING

4. THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, referring to discussions at recent meetings, reported that, with Mr. Ilsley and Mr. Howe, he had conferred with the Chairman of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Mr. Gordon had made it clear that the Board were not recommending the imposition of rationing, but if the government decided to put it into effect, then the Board were of the opinion that slaughtering restrictions were essential; they were not prepared to undertake coupon rationing without control of slaughtering.

5. MR. GARDINER said that, in the circumstances, he did not recommend rationing which would, in his opinion, produce nothing additional for export, but a continuance of the present system with the prospect of getting 60 to 70

²²²Les réunions ministérielles ont eu lieu le 18 et 19 avril.

The Ministerial meetings took place on April 18 and 19.

²²³Les réunions des officiels ont eu lieu du 5 au 27 avril. Les représentants du Canada étaient H. F. Angus, G. S. H. Barton, G. R. Paterson, K. W. Taylor and L. B. Pearson.

The meetings of officials took place from April 5 to 27. The representatives of Canada were H. F. Angus, G. S. H. Barton, G. R. Paterson, K. W. Taylor and L. B. Pearson.