

I assume it will be in accord with usual procedure to have Assignment Commissions issued by His Majesty in names of Kirkwood and Porsild. It is desired reference therein should not be made to Denmark but to constituted authorities 'in Greenland'. It is not proposed, however, that any Assignment Commissions be presented to Greenland authorities. In this connection I may inform you that United States Consular Officers sent to Greenland have been issued Assignment Commissions in which reference is made to constituted authorities in Greenland but these Commissions will not be presented to Greenland authorities and United States authorities are of opinion question of Exequatur does not arise. (1)

On May 27th the Dominions Office replied:

Appointment of person named as Consul in Greenland is being submitted to His Majesty for signature, but, in the meantime, it is suggested that the authorities in Greenland should be invited to accord provisional recognition pending definitive appointment. Commission of Appointment, when signed by His Majesty, will be forwarded to you for counter-signature and despatch. Vice-Consuls do not receive from His Majesty Commission but Commission for Consul will include authority for him to make such appointments. (2)

In a formal note dated May 20, 1940, addressed to Governor Svane at Godthaab, Dr.

Skelton advised him that:

Mr. K.P. Kirkwood, Second Secretary of the External Affairs Service of Canada is being appointed Canadian Consul in Greenland, and will proceed to Greenland in the very near future. Mr. A.E. Porsild, who is proceeding tomorrow on the 'Nascopie' is being appointed Canadian Vice-Consul in Greenland to assist Mr. Kirkwood. It would be appreciated if quarters could be provided for Mr. Kirkwood and Mr. Porsild. The Canadian authorities would also be grateful if they might be furnished with what they may require on the understanding that the Canadian authorities would recoup the Greenland authorities in this connection. (3)

(1) File 267-J-40. Part II.

(2) Ibid

(3) Ibid.