

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

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*Note du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
pour le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*
*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

CONFIDENTIAL

Ottawa, June 19, 1952

PROJECTED VISIT OF A CANADIAN TRADE MISSION TO LATIN AMERICA,
HEADED BY THE RT. HON. C.D. HOWE

You might already be aware that Mr. Howe has agreed to lead a Canadian trade delegation to Latin America and the Caribbean area in October and November of this year.

2. The Department is satisfied that this is a very happy development, not only in the field of trade but also more generally in a strengthening of our relations with Latin America. At the official level, we have been considering the idea for some time.

3. Present plans call for the type of Mission which Senator MacKinnon headed to South Africa, Mission composed of Department of Trade and Commerce officials and a group of Canadian businessmen. These would be selected by the Department of Trade and Commerce, bearing in mind their interest in Latin America but also taking into consideration suggestions made by such associations as the Canadian Manufacturers Association and the Canadian Exporters Association. This is a welcome proposal from our point of view because, as you may remember, there was some criticism at a recent Canadian Exporters Association meeting by their members as to the amount of cooperation given to them by Canadian Government officials abroad.

4. Mr. Howe will be accompanied by Mr. W.F. Bull, Deputy Minister, Mr. A.L. Savard, Latin American Area Officer and one of the Minister's Private Secretaries.

5. Two itineraries are being considered:

(a) A short tour during which the Mission would visit Cuba, Brazil, Trinidad, Venezuela, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico. The tour would last about five weeks.

(b) A more extensive tour which would include the West Coast countries of Peru and Chile as well as a visit to Argentina and Uruguay.

5. [sic] The first itinerary presents little if any political difficulties, although countries like Argentina, Peru, Chile and Uruguay will not be too happy to be left out altogether. The second tour raises the problem of a visit to Argentina, and we have been consulted informally by the Department of Trade and Commerce about the advisability of such a visit at this time.

6. Canadian trade with Argentina has fallen badly due to the restrictions and difficulties placed in the way of international trade generally by the Peron