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*Le chef de la délégation du commerce
au directeur par intérim de la Direction des Relations
internationales du commerce du ministère du Commerce*

*Head of Trade Delegation
to Acting Director, International Trade Relations Division,
Department of Trade and Commerce*

TELEGRAM

Bogota, October 24, 1950

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

No trade agreement any kind can be made by Colombian Government's without the approval of the Colombian Congress which will not meet before July 20th 1951. We are officially informed that recent compensation agreement not signed by Government but by the autonomous agencies. In addition no modus vivendi can be signed by Colombia because the short term agreements are contrary to the Colombian Government policies. It has become clear in the course of the discussions that the important provisions of the 1946 agreement are not acceptable to Colombia today. Meanwhile reciprocal most favoured nation treatment between Canada and Colombia continues as it stands at present under the treaty of 1866 with Great Britain. Copy of the agreed statement for immediate release to the Colombian press has gone as separate message in clear.⁹

For your confidential information we are reasonably satisfied with new draft agreement but are still trying [to] reach agreement on the one controversial point. Entire agreement however naturally remain[s] subject to approval of both Governments. Arriving Ecuador October 25th.

H.L. BROWN

⁹ Une version modifiée de ce communiqué de presse figure dans :/An amended version of this press release appears in:/Canada, Department of Trade and Commerce, *Foreign Trade*, Volume VIII, No. 200, October 28, 1950.