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423 West 118th Street  
New York 27, New York  
August 2, 1957

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, P.C., Q.C.  
Bank of Montreal Bldg.  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada

*file*

Dear Mr. Meighen,

I, Mary Klachko, am at present writing my doctoral dissertation under the direction of Professor William T.R. Fox of Columbia University. It is a study of the Anglo-American Naval Competition between 1919-1922, a study of the part the Navy played in the relations between Great Britain and the United States. I plan to have this study published in 1958.

I am most anxious to present an exhaustive and well-rounded study on a topic of such great interest to scholars. I am anxious to turn out an unbiased work. Much time and study has already gone into this research of mine. I have completed my research both in the United States and England.

In the United States, I have studied the Wilson, Daniels, House, Bliss, Long, White, Bryan, Hughes, Newton Baker, R.S. Baker, Pershing, Anderson, Poindexter, Glass, David Hunter Miller and Roosevelt papers in the private collections. In the Naval History Department I have studied the records of the General Board and the records of the Naval Intelligence Office. In the National Archives I have gone through the General Correspondence files of the Office of the Secretary of the Navy as well as the secret and confidential correspondence of the Office of the Secretary of the Navy.

I have just returned from England where for four months I have studied the available primary sources there. Besides studying the various collections, I spoke with a great many of those who played an active part in the episodes of the years under study. Among these were Lord Elibank, Lord Killearn, Lord Chatfield, Lord Bracken, Sir Arthur Willert, Sir Norman Angell, Lady A. Geddes, and Mrs. W. Steed, and I am the recipient of their most hearty cooperation.

Mr. Meighen, you played a great part in making the history of the time under my study and in the formulation of some plans in English foreign policy. I need your help in the presentation to the reader the true story of your great work. Perhaps you have some correspondence from these years useful to the presentation of my topic, some notes or memoranda reflecting your role in these episodes and the role of Canada. Canada and you as her Prime Minister played a greater role at this time than any other member of the Commonwealth. Your opinions were most important and decisive, and England certainly took them into consideration. When I last saw Mrs. Steed in London, she made it very clear to me that you can be of the greatest help to me. Mrs. Steed's husband had the highest respect for your opinions.

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