

3. Agreement between Canada and the United States concerning construction of Alaska Highway, Exchange of Notes of March 17, 1942

Legation of the
United States of America

No. 626

Ottawa, March 17, 1942.

Sir,

1. As you are aware, on February 26, 1942, the Permanent Joint Board on Defence approved a recommendation as a result of which the two Sections proposed to their respective Governments:

"the construction of a highway along the route that follows the general line of airports, Fort St. John - Fort Nelson - Watson Lake - Whitehorse - Boundary - Big Delta, the respective termini connecting with existing roads in Canada and Alaska."

This recommendation based as it was on military considerations and military considerations only, and having the endorsement of the Service Departments of the two countries, has been approved by both Governments.

2. My Government, being convinced of the urgent necessity for the construction of this highway and appreciating the burden of war expenditure already incurred by Canada, in particular on the construction of the air route to Alaska, is prepared to undertake the building and wartime maintenance of the highway. Subject to the provision by Canada of the facilities set forth in paragraph 3 of this Note, the Government of the United States is prepared to:

The Secretary of State for External Affairs,

O t t a w a.