PRESS RELEASE

CANADA

COMMUNIQUÉ

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1963.

In recognition of the need to facilitate, with safety, flight across the common boundary, the Governments of Canada and the United States today concluded an agreement authorizing under certain conditions the extension of air traffic control service by either country across that boundary into airspace over the territory of the other country.

The agreement establishes a zone fifty miles either side of the Canadian-U.S. boundary within which the "air boundary" for air traffic control purposes would usually coincide with the International boundary but in some instances, when prevailing air traffic conditions and operational necessity dictate, the "air boundary" would be established procedurally elsewhere within this zone by agreement between the Department of Transport and the U.S. Federal Aviation Agency.

In developing the agreement, full cognizance has been taken of the fact that in accordance with the laws of the two countries, Canadian rules and regulations must apply in Canadian airspace and U.S. regulations must apply in U.S. airspace. Accordingly, measures have been taken to ensure that the Canadian and U.S. air traffic controllers who provide service for such flights will be kept advised of, and apply the rules and regulations appropriate to, the airspace under their jurisdiction. Since there is a very high degree of uniformity in the U.S. and Canadian rules, no difficulty is anticipated in ensuring that the appropriate rules will be applied in each case.