

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 96

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1955.

The following exchange of Notes has taken place:

Embassy of the United States of America November 16, 1955

No. 127

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to discussions concerning the St. Lawrence Seaway project which have recently taken place between representatives of the Embassy and representatives of the Department of External Affairs regarding the problems arising from the necessity to relocate that part of the Roosevelt Bridge which crosses the Cornwall South Channel.

It was concluded as a result of these discussions that the present bridge should be dismantled and a new bridge built at Polly's Gut; that the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation of the United States and the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority of Canada should agree on plans and buil the new bridge as a joint undertaking, sharing the costs in proportion to the amount of the structure in the territory of their respective countries; that contracts for the construction of the bridge should be shared equitably between United States and Canadian contractors or, if this is not feasible, that United States and Canadian contractors should be given the opportunity to tender for contracts for part or all of the bridge on an equal basis; that waivers of customs and immigration regulations should be granted, on a reciprocal basis, by both Governments to facilitate the construction of the bridge; and that the Corporation and the Authority should make arrangements for the operation and maintenance of the bridge.

It was further concluded that the Corporation and the Authority would each have the responsibility for the relocation and construction of related facilities, including railway and highway approaches to the new bridge, and of meeting all requirements and procedures arising from the relocations in their respective territories, although the Corporation and the Authority may jointly make agreements with interested parties if they so desire. The Corporation and the Authority will

The Honorable

Lester B. Pearson,

Secretary of State

For External Affairs,

<u>Ottawa</u>