

(c) Press Arrangements

Prime Minister King made a statement in the House of Commons on June 2 about the forthcoming visit of President Truman. This was followed immediately by a Press Release issued by the Department of the Secretary of State outlining the June 10-12 programme. The files do not contain any Press Release or Communiqué issued at the end of the visit; neither was there any discussion of a press release. Mr. A. Anderson, Head of DEA's Information Division and a member of the Interdepartmental Committee, wrote a memo dated July 25, 1947 (see attachment marked "C") noting the problems of handling information work for such visits and suggesting ways of improving the procedure for future visits. Mr. Anderson's memorandum also describes generally the procedures set up for the visit. The Prime Minister proposed to Cabinet, which agreed, that an Interdepartmental Committee be formed under the Chairmanship of the Secretary of State, Mr. Coleman. The Interdepartmental Committee's membership was drawn from the Departments of Transport, National Defence, External Affairs, Prime Minister's Office, Government House, RCMP, Public Works and Railway officials.

Sources: Department of External Affairs Annual Report, 1947
DEA Monthly Bulletin, June 1947
Hansard (Session 1947 Vol. V) pp. 4060-4065 for June 11, 1947
Department of External Affairs files 53-ATW-40C, 53-ATW-1-40C, 53-VT-40, 53-GK-40 (all these Departmental files are in the Public Archives on Wellington Street)