

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Ottawa, November 13, 1941.

No. 309

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that as a result of discussions originating through Service channels, the Canadian Government has decided to provide for the remission or refund of customs duty and excise taxes which would otherwise be payable with respect to military, naval and air supplies and equipment acquired by the Government of countries allied with the United Kingdom or by the Government of the United States or by units of their armed forces, when such goods are to become and remain the property of such governments or units. A copy of the Order in Council making provision for the said remission or refund is enclosed for your detailed information.

You will observe that Canada is taking the action outlined above without suggesting that reciprocal steps be taken by the United States. It is recognized that it is not immediately likely that any Canadian forces will be established on United States territory. Should the situation in this respect change, however, the Canadian Government assumes that a request for the extension of similar treatment to the Canadian Government or to Canadian units will be given sympathetic consideration by the Government of the United States.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Secretary of State for
External Affairs.

(NORMAN ROBERTSON)

The United States Minister to
Canada,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

COPY/R.M.