

Canadian Embassy



Ambassade du Canada

NOTE NO. 0318

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's note of October 7, 1996, concerning environmental issues at the four former U.S. military installations in Canada mentioned in your note.

I have the honour to inform you that the United States Government's proposal contained therein is acceptable to the Government of Canada. However, contrary to the views of the United States Government, it is the view of the Government of Canada that the Government of the United States has legal obligations under international law to pay claims for the environmental clean-up of these former U.S. military installations.

I wish to assure you that the Government of Canada understands that the specific legislative authority, i.e. authorizations and appropriations, to which the United States' *ex gratia* settlement is subject shall be a matter for decision by the United States Congress. The Government of Canada also understands that payment in full of the *ex gratia*