

conomic Cooperation Act. You will recall, however, that the U.S. strongly favoured pledges of economic and social cooperation by the O.E.E.C. countries at the time the bilaterals were negotiated. For our part, we have no similar economic agreements with these countries to which we can point. Perhaps our arguments now for a strong Article 2 are not unlike those previously advanced by the United States.

2. I continue to object to the thesis that the Treaty should be merely a military alliance designed for the immediate emergency. It must, I think, if it is to be acceptable to Canada, go much deeper. You should, therefore, continue to press for a strengthening of Article 2 and should you meet with no success, for the maintenance of the Article as it now stands as the *minimum* requirement.

3. I have instructed the Canadian High Commissioner, London, to speak to the U.K. authorities at the earliest opportunity with a view to securing United Kingdom support for a strong Article 2.

4. Mr. St. Laurent intends to inform Mr. Truman during his visit of the importance which the Canadian Government attaches to the maintenance of Article 2 in the Treaty either in its present form or in wider terms.

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DEA/283(s)

*L'ambassadeur aux États-Unis
au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Ambassador in United States
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM WA-342

Washington, February 9, 1949

TOP SECRET

Following for Pearson from Wrong, Begins: North Atlantic Treaty. Reference my report of yesterday's meeting with Acheson.

1. You will notice that none of the pending questions was settled and that some new issues were brought up. Acheson's purpose was to sound out the rest of us on the course of his discussions with the Senators and also to collect opinions on the line which the State Department should take in their further talks with the Norwegians. I hope we gave him some ammunition which he will use to defend the maintenance of the phrase "military or other action" in Article 5 with Connally and Vanderberg. I think we can drop the words "as may be necessary" without any pain, and I do not attach much significance to the inclusion of "forthwith". The language should, however, directly indicate that military action is part of the commitment.

2. I brought up our views on Article 2 toward the end of the meeting (which degenerated into a straggling discussion of various points) so that Acheson would know of the great importance which we attach to an improved article on economic collaboration before he had another meeting with the Senators. There was next to no discussion of our suggestions. I think we can at least maintain the present article, subject to finding some alternative to the phrase "to promote the general wel-