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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

I have been making enquiries about the source of the leak about Atherton's appointment, which appeared in yesterday evening's "Citizen, and am satisfied that it did not come from any of the very limited number of officers of our Department or the United States Legation who knew about the nomination. Mr. Lawton, who is in charge of the United States Legation in Mr. Clark's absence, told me this morning that an officer of his staff had heard that Atherton's appointment had been announced at a dinner party by a local lady last week and that she had said that she had received her inside information on the subject in Washington. It may be this gossip which found its way into the press.

Mr. Lawton told me that the delay in submitting Mr. Atherton's nomination to the Senate was due to some slowness in securing the Agreement of the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg. You will recall that the United States Minister to Canada is also the United States Minister to Luxembourg while the Grand Duchess resides here. Lawton had been in touch with the State Department this morning and learned that the news of Atherton's appointment had also appeared in the Washington papers yesterday. They were upset about the leak but they did not think it would interfere with the submission of his name in due course to the Senate.

MLK