



CANADA

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## CANADIAN - U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY AGREEMENT

An agreement was signed on May 22 in Washington between the Canadian and United States Governments, providing for co-operation between the two countries on the uses of atomic energy for mutual defence purposes.

As the Prime Minister said when he made the announcement in the House, this agreement will enable Canada to take advantage of the amendments made last year to the U.S. Atomic Energy Act and will, therefore, continue and extend the degree to which co-operation in this field has been carried out under the Agreement for Co-operation Regarding Atomic Information for Mutual Defence Purposes, signed in Washington on June 15, 1955, and the amendment to the civil agreement (of June 15, 1955), signed on June 26, 1956.

Mr. Diefenbaker went on to say:

"Under the terms of the United States act, as Members of the House know, agreements for co-operation on the uses of atomic energy for mutual defence purposes must lie on the table of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy of the United States Congress for a period of 60 days after signature. It is expected, therefore, that this agreement will come into effect in approximately that period of time.

"It might be helpful if I were to draw the attention of the House to the main features of this agreement, and in that connection I will use the language of the agreement. It will permit the exchange of information necessary to the development of defence plans; the training of personnel in the employment of and

defence against atomic weapons and other military applications of atomic energy; the evaluation of the capabilities of potential enemies in the employment of atomic weapons; the development of delivery systems compatible with the atomic weapons which they carry; research, development and design of military reactors to the extent and by such means as may be agreed.

"Provision is made for the transfer to Canada, under mutually agreeable conditions, of such non-nuclear parts of atomic weapons systems involving restricted data as are jointly determined to be necessary to improve the state of training of Canada's armed forces and the operational readiness of those forces. Finally, the way will be opened for the transfer at some future time to Canada of military reactors and any special nuclear materials required for them. Because of the sensitive nature of the information and materials which will be exchanged and transferred under this agreement, certain appropriate safeguard provisions have been included.

"I feel certain that the co-operation which will be carried out under this agreement will be of substantial benefit to Canada, not only in the training of our armed forces, in the development of defence plans and in the improvement in our military state of readiness and our equipment, but also in enabling Canada's armed forces better to play their part in the defence of North America and the free world.