

VI. *Conclusion*

23. It is accordingly suggested that:

- (a) Canada take no active part in the settlement of this dispute,
- (b) the United Kingdom Government be informed:
 - (i) that we share their anxiety that disputes relating to the Antarctic should be settled,
 - (ii) that we hope that the countries with interests in the Antarctic will be able among themselves to reach a satisfactory settlement of their differences,
 - (iii) that the Canadian Government assumes that any international régime which is established in the Antarctic will not in any way contradict the obligations which participating States have accepted under the Charter of the United Nations, and that through the registration of the agreement with the United Nations, and in any other ways that may be appropriate, the agreement will be brought within the framework of the United Nations,
 - (iv) that at this time we have no other comments to offer on the United States proposals or on the policy of the United Kingdom with regard thereto but we may wish to make comments later on when the full United States proposals and the views of other interested countries are known.
- (c) communications be sent to the other interested Commonwealth countries, and especially to New Zealand in view of the request recently received, along the lines proposed for the reply to the United Kingdom.⁸

L.B. P[EARSON]

1131.

DEA/247 (S)

*Note du sous-secrétaire d'État par intérim aux Affaires extérieures
pour le secrétaire d'État par intérim aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TOP SECRET

[Ottawa], November 29, 1948

ANTARCTIC

As a result of the United Kingdom's request for Canada's views on a proposal which the United States was about to put forward as a solution to the current question of sovereignty in the Antarctic, a memorandum dated July 30 outlining developments was submitted to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Mr. St. Laurent agreed with the recommendation that Canada should take no active part in the settlement of these disputes and that the United Kingdom be informed that Canada had no comments to offer at that time.

⁸ Note marginale :/Marginal note:
I agree. St. L[Laurent] Aug. 8, 1948