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HALIFAX, N.S.,

15th June, 1939

To

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

Before we leave you to-day I wish to congratulate you very sincerely on the Defence Forces of the Dominion. Time has not permitted me to assist at the training exercises which are the only test of defence that peaceful conditions can provide. Our contact has, of necessity, been one of ceremonial. Even so, it has been easy to detect among all ranks that spirit of discipline and keenness to serve, without which the most thorough training would be useless.

In both Oceans the Canadian Navy has been our escort, and on land as well there has been ample opportunity to see the smart efficiency of all ranks. Not only at Victoria, where I presented colours to the regular force, but repeatedly along our route where we have been greeted by detachments of the Naval Volunteer Reserve, have I been proud to notice that the same high standard has been maintained.

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W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
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