

be helpful if you would let me know whether the protective measures adopted by you at the Wabana area are as extensive as those which have been adopted, say, in the Sydney and Glasgow Bay areas. If they have been more extensive, you could, perhaps, indicate the difference in practice.

This communication is, of course, of a very secret character, and I should be grateful if you would take precautions to prevent its contents from coming to the attention of any persons, other than the senior officers of your company whom you may have to consult with a view to obtaining the necessary information.

Yours sincerely,

O. D. SKELTON

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1156-D-39

Le conseiller juridique au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Legal Adviser to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs

[Ottawa,] January 26, 1940

The attached letter from Mr. Cross, President of the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation Limited, makes it clear that the company has been doing all that is reasonably necessary in Bell Island to make effective the sort of protective measures that are practised by Canadian industries. He points out that the real danger at Bell Island is from attacks from the sea by submarines or other enemy craft, and the Company is not competent to provide protection from a danger of this sort.

I may say that I should have complete confidence in any arrangements made by Colonel J. A. Macdonald, whom I have known well since the summer of 1915.

I venture to suggest that in the circumstances we should be authorized to write to Earncliffe along the lines set forth in the draft letter of December 20th, 1939¹.

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

Le président de Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation Limited
au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

President of Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation Limited
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs

SECRET

Montreal, January 20, 1940

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 19th inst. has received careful consideration.

At the outbreak of war Colonel J. A. Macdonald of our organization who was then placed in charge of all policing and protective measures affecting all our properties consulted with Major Haultain of the Sabotage Division

¹ Non reproduite.

¹ Not printed.