

"In the Board's opinion, the addition which the project would make to our military potential would far outweigh the initial expenditure in manpower, money and critical materials. Much of these materials would be required in any event because if the combined project were not now proceeded with, alternative sources of power would have to be provided.

"The Board recognized the risk to the St. Lawrence Seaway project from enemy attack. It was of the opinion, however, that this risk was no greater than the danger to any other existing installations of comparable importance. Since the area concerned was already one of high defense priority, the Board believed that adequate protective measures would be possible on a reasonably economical basis.

"Having in mind these considerations and re-affirming its previous Recommendations, the Board recommended:

That the two Governments take immediate action to implement the 1941 St. Lawrence Agreement as a vital measure for their common defence."

Thus there is now on the public record the advice of the two bodies which have been created by Canada and the United States to consider matters of mutual interest and concern along our boundary both for Peace and for Defence - the International Joint Commission, established under the Waterways Treaty of 1909 and the Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence, set up by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister King at Ogdensburg in August 1940 have both recommended - repeatedly - that the St. Lawrence project for navigation and power should be built - and promptly.

I regret I have now used up my allotted time and so I cannot go on to talk to you about some of the other very important matters, such as the preservation of the scenic beauty of Niagara and the abatement of pollution in our boundary waters which are being dealt with by the International Joint Commission, but I would say that in these matters we seek, as we have been instructed in the Treaty to seek, to dispel any differences which may arise before they may magnify and thus cause trouble on the border; we seek also to proceed in equity, to recognize the equality of the interests and the rights of our two countries and to promote the mutual advantage in all matters which are remitted to the Commission for investigation or for decision, as the case may be; and I claim for the Permanent Joint Board on Defence a like attitude of close co-operation and intimate association in working for the solution of the problems which give us both great concern for our defence, particularly in these dangerous times.

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