



Ottawa, September 18th, 1947.

CIRCULAR

No. B. 136

Sir,

Canadian Consular Instructions have been prepared as a guide for all officers performing consular work. Whenever an Act, Order-in-Council, or other document is referred to, the original should in all cases be consulted, as these Instructions are intended only as a gloss to assist in the interpretation of the original document.

2. The enclosed instructions are not intended to be exhaustive. This is a first attempt not merely to codify but to outline a consistent policy with respect to consular matters. Many subjects are included on which there has either been no previous instruction or the instruction had been fragmentary and ad hoc.

3. Additional chapters are in preparation and will be issued from time to time. The index indicates what subjects some of these chapters will cover. Chapter VII on the subject of passports has already been forwarded to you.

4. Matters which have already been dealt with in Administrative Instructions are not included in these instructions.

5. These instructions are not binding on the Canadian Consular Service vis-a-vis individuals and do not of themselves create any rights. They are instructions from the Department to its officers and may be varied from time to time except insofar as they are dependent on legislation. If there is any doubt, if the instructions do not appear to cover the situation adequately or if the instructions appear to work an injustice, reference should be made to the Department explaining the situation in detail, naming the articles which have some bearing on the subject, together with recommendations for improvement in the instructions.

6. It is proposed to begin printing these instructions as amended before the end of this year. Comments and recommendations should therefore be forwarded as soon as possible. Suggestions of subjects for additional chapters will be helpful.

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To the Heads of
Canadian Missions Abroad.