

until next week. He appreciates the United States assurance that Canada would be given ample notice of any decision by the United States to ask for the recall of French diplomatic and consular officials and would not like to have Canada take any step which might make it more difficult for the United States to pursue its present policy of maintaining diplomatic relations with Vichy.

You should explain to the Department of State that our continued reception of French Minister here has, up to now, been made possible by Churchill's explicit and public assurance that he felt the desirability of and welcomed such action on our part. As you will have seen from his message to the Prime Minister of April 21st, he has not renewed this assurance but has left it to us to determine whether we wish to continue to receive a French Minister.

In the circumstances the Prime Minister is of the opinion that the severance of diplomatic relations with France is becoming unavoidable. Unless the United States felt that such action on our part would occasion them serious embarrassment, it would be desirable to take the necessary action within the present week.

25.

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Le ministre aux États-Unis au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Minister in United States to Secretary of State for External Affairs

TELETYPE WA-755

Washington, April 23, 1942

MOST IMMEDIATE. SECRET. Following from Wrong, Begins: Reference your EX-650 of April 23rd. Mr. McCarthy has just seen Mr. Welles and has communicated to him the contents of your message. Mr. Welles asked him to thank the Prime Minister for his unflinching courtesy and to state that, so far as the United States Government is concerned, he could feel free to proceed at his discretion.

2. If a decision is reached for the severance of diplomatic relations between France and Canada, I think it desirable that we should give the State Department notice of the time of public announcement. In view of Mr. McCarthy's conversation this afternoon this notice can be very brief.

3. Mr. McCarthy is leaving at 5:00 o'clock for New York and will return to Washington probably Monday afternoon. Ends.

26.

DEA/3618-40

Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs

TELEGRAM 95

London, April 24, 1942

SECRET. My telegram No. 91 of April 21st. Following for the Prime Minister, Begins: We have now reviewed afresh the question of the maintenance of relations between the Canadian Government and the Vichy Government in the