NAR/ET 10 Nov.1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER:

Embassy Announcement

C161642

The President has decided that it would be better to keep the twelve o'clock hour for the release about the Embassy even though this means that the United States Government will not be able to say that Atherton is being nominated as Ambassador. Mr.Hull is going to make the announcement at his press conference at noon. Since the Americans will not be able to mention Mr.Atherton's nomination in their statement will not refer to Mr.McCarthy's appointment either, but there will be no difficulty for them in your saying that Mr.McCarthy will be our first Ambassador. The wording of the joint statement tomorrow will therefore be as follows:

The Governments of Canada and the United States announced today that arrangements have been completed whereby the legations of the two countries at Ottawa and Washington will be elevated to the rank of embassy. The change in status will become effective with respect to each mission upon the presentation of the Letter of Credence of the Ambassador Designate.

The ties of friendship which for so long have bound Canada and the United States together, during both war and peace, are thus further cemented by this accord of the two Governments announced today.

You can say orally at the press conference that the Honourable Leighton McCarthy will be appointed as the first Ambassador of Canada to the United States.

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W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 240, pages C161485-C162390