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*L'officier administratif canadien, la Commission composée de
l'alimentation, à l'adjoint spécial en temps de guerre du
sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Canadian Executive Officer, Combined Food Board, to Special
Wartime Assistant to Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs*

TOP SECRET

Washington, April 26, 1945

Dear Mr. Angus,

TRIPARTITE DISCUSSIONS ON FOOD

I am enclosing herewith the only three spare copies I have of a note for Dominions' Representatives, which was handed to us this morning when Messrs. Lyttelton and Llewellyn explained the outcome of the present discussions on world food supplies with the Representatives of the Dominions. Mr. Mahoney and Mr. Ritchie were also in attendance from the Canadian Embassy.

I think the note is probably complete, except that it does not indicate sufficiently the seriousness of the position which was brought out more clearly in the discussions with the British Ministers.

The Tripartite Committee is meeting again this afternoon on the Ministerial Level in what may prove to be a final discussion. Briefly, the position as I see it, subject to further amplification following today's meeting, is as follows:

1. *Sugar*—The arrangements are as complete as can be, as indicated in my teletype WA-2175 of April 24th.[†] Following discussions with Mr. Taylor by telephone yesterday, I inserted in the minutes of yesterday's meeting, when we finalized the sugar position, the condition that we had asked to be included in the early stages of our discussions, that is, that when the matter is again looked into prior to the first of June due consideration should be given to the Canadian request to have the underusage in the first quarter partially offset by an additional 6,000 to 9,000 tons allocation. At the meeting I pointed out that the present cutback in consumption of the three countries would leave us with the biggest percentage cutback.

2. *Oils and Fats*—The deficit is substantial and it was indicated at this morning's meeting that the position might be further jeopardized by the newest estimate of the ground nut crop in India and increased demands in that area. Briefly, however, on the basis of our knowledge of the position up to yesterday, by a severe reduction in the United Kingdom stocks and a decrease in consumption of about four per cent over the year 1945, we can meet the present requirements and still give the liberated areas reasonably useful quantities.

3. *Meat*—The meat position has not been resolved to the satisfaction of the United Kingdom. The problem is still one of canned meat and so far the United States military authorities have not indicated any willingness to discuss their