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DEA/11563-3-40

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
à l'ambassadeur au Pérou  
Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Ambassador in Peru*

TELEGRAM 34<sup>5</sup>

Ottawa, October 24, 1952

CONFIDENTIAL. IMPORTANT

In January 1953 a good-will mission, headed by the Minister of Trade and Commerce and principally concerned with trade, will make short visits to Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and the three countries on the east coast of South America, with three brief stop-overs in the Caribbean. Full itinerary has been sent to you by bag. Announcements will possibly be issued in Ottawa and host capitals as early as November 7. The release date will be telegraphed when agreed upon. The governments concerned are being asked at present to agree to receive the mission.

2. The countries to be visited are our main present markets in Latin America. The Department of Trade and Commerce took fully into account the advantages of including in the itinerary stops in Peru and Chile but, finding that the time at the disposal of Mr. Howe (between sessions of Parliament) and the business members of the mission was very limited, was forced to a decision, with great regret, that on this occasion it was impossible to extend the tour to the West coast of South America or to Central America.

3. The information in paragraph 2 above is designed to assist you in answering any questions asked after the announcements are made. You may add, if necessary, that this tour is being undertaken in line with a general policy of sending trade missions to the Latin American and other areas and that it is hoped that a tour which will include Central America and the west coast of South America will prove feasible in the not too distant future. At the same time you should not encourage proposals for a further tour at an early date. The matter should be treated as confidential pending announcements. It is considered that if an attempt were made to explain the situation to the Peruvian and Chilean Governments before the announcements, they would press for extension of the itinerary and our embarrassment would be the greater.

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<sup>5</sup>Le télégramme porte la mention :/Noted in telegram:  
Repeat to the Canadian Ambassador, Santiago, Chile 49.