

exchange Ministers with China and U.S.S.R., the Government has not yet been able to find the right men for the posts. You may tell Mr. Welles that the Government fully appreciate the importance and desirability, particularly at the present juncture, of establishing direct diplomatic relations between Canada and Mexico, but we do not wish to make a commitment on the matter to the Mexican Government until we can see our way to the fairly prompt establishment of a Legation.³⁰ Ends.

54.

DEA/1476-40

*Le sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
au sous-ministre du Commerce*

*Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce*

Ottawa, July 24, 1942

Dear Mr. Wilgress,

In your letter of July 15¹ you said that you would like me to indicate to you the sense in which I think Mr. MacKinnon might convey to Dr. Tudela the attitude of the Canadian Government towards the exchange of Ministers with Peru. I should be inclined to state the opinion of the Government somewhat as follows:

“The Canadian Government appreciates greatly the desire of the Peruvian Government to establish direct diplomatic relations with Canada. The Canadian Government shares the desire of the Peruvian Government for closer relations between our two countries. It would very much like to establish immediately direct diplomatic relations with Peru on a reciprocal basis but because of special circumstances which have been fully explained to the Consul General of Peru it regrets its inability to do so at the present time. When these circumstances change, the Canadian Government will be glad to examine with the Peruvian Government the question of the establishment of direct diplomatic relations. If it should unfortunately prove impossible for Canada to consider the establishment of direct diplomatic relations during the war, the Canadian Government feels certain that after the conclusion of hostilities it will be possible for Canada to establish a Legation in Lima and to welcome the establishment of a Peruvian Legation in Ottawa.

Peru, in view of its situation, its great resources, and its special importance to Canada, holds a special place in the minds of the Government and people of Canada and the Peruvian Government may be assured that the Canadian Government greatly values the close and friendly relations which happily exist between Canada and Peru and which the Canadian Government trusts will be made even more intimate as a result of the conclusion of a Trade Agreement³¹ between the two countries.”

Yours sincerely,

N. A. ROBERTSON

³⁰Voir aussi le document 7.

³¹Voir le volume 8, documents 937 et 938.

³⁰See also Document 7.

³¹See Volume 8, Documents 937 and 938.