

(Translation)

EXCHANGE OF NOTES (September 4, 1956) BETWEEN CANADA AND FRANCE
CONCERNING BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS IN FRANCE FOR MEMBERS OF
CANADIAN FORCES AND CIVILIAN COMPONENTS

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*The Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
to the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Canada to France*

MINISTRY

OF

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FRENCH REPUBLIC

PARIS, September 4, 1956.

Sir:

I have the honour to propose to you to settle certain matters regarding the transport, burial and embalming of bodies of members of the Canadian Forces or the civilian component thereof, or of their dependents, who die in France, by the following provisions:

"1. The provisions of this letter shall be applicable in the case of death, in the French Metropolitan Territory, of a member of the Canadian Forces or the civilian component thereof or of a dependent, as defined by the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the status of their Forces, signed at London on June 19, 1951.*

"2. In the case of death of a person coming under the categories mentioned in Paragraph 1, the duly authorized medical officer shall ascertain death and prepare a certificate, a sample form of which is annexed to this letter. A duplicate of such certificate, drawn up in French and containing all details concerning the civil status of the deceased, shall immediately be sent to the mayor of the town where death occurred.

"3. When the French judicial authority prescribes an autopsy of the deceased, the autopsy shall be conducted jointly by a French medical officer designated by the judicial authority and a Canadian military medical officer designated by the Canadian Command, at the time and place fixed by the judicial authority.

When the French judicial authority does not prescribe an autopsy of the deceased, the autopsy may be decided upon by the competent Canadian military authorities. The French authorities shall be informed upon request of the results of such autopsy.

"4. Subject to the provisions of Paragraph 3, the body of the deceased shall be taken without delay to the nearest medical centre of the Canadian Forces by the service designated by the competent Canadian military authorities.

The body shall be transported under the exclusive care of convoy personnel designated by the competent Canadian military authorities. Whenever requested by police or gendarme authorities, such conveying personnel shall produce personal identity cards bearing their photographs as well as a copy of the death certificate.

*Canada Treaty Series 1953, No. 13.