

(other than the British West Indies) which was actively engaged as a belligerent, but several of the countries of South America, such as Uruguay and Brazil, were sympathetic to the Allied cause, and sought to have closer contact with the Dominion which at first was the principal defender of the Western Hemisphere. The interruption of trans-Atlantic commerce also led to increased commercial intercourse between the South American and North American countries. Argentina had a large British population (as well as German) which took an active interest in the Allied war-effort, and many Anglo-Argentines came to Canada to enlist and take air-training. The relations between the South American countries and Canada thus became more close.

On a reciprocal basis, therefore, during the first years of the war, it was agreed to exchange diplomatic Missions ^{with} ~~between~~ the major republics of South America; and when in 1941 Canada decided to open Legations in Brazil, Argentina and Chile, those countries, which had long been pressing for such steps, were prompt to open their Missions in Ottawa.

The first Minister of Brazil to Canada was Mr. J.A. Lins de Barros, who presented his credentials to the Governor General on May 15, 1941. He was replaced by Mr. Caio de Mello Franco who was accredited on August 28, 1942. His staff consisted of a First Secretary, a Commercial Counsellor, a Second Secretary, and an Attaché. The Legation was established at 140 Wellington St.