

operate such an arrangement and I think it is doubtful whether the joint representation of Polish interests would be as effective as the representation by Australia alone.

The Prime Minister appreciated the message from General Sikorski which was transmitted in your personal letter to him of May 18th.[†] Would you inform General Sikorski in answer to this message that Mr. King welcomes this expression of his confidence and is sorry that compelling reasons prevent the Canadian Government from accepting these responsibilities? He hopes that diplomatic relations between the Polish Government and the Government of the Soviet Union will soon be resumed and that in the meantime the humanitarian work for the relief of destitute Poles in the U.S.S.R. can be continued under the supervision of the Australian Legation.

Yours sincerely,

N. A. ROBERTSON

PARTIE 12/PART 12
UNION SOVIÉTIQUE/SOVIET UNION

1532.

DEA/2462-40

*Le haut commissaire en Grande-Bretagne au
secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*High Commissioner in Great Britain to
Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 1104

London, April 22, 1942

SECRET. Following for the Prime Minister, Begins: Question has been raised informally as to whether Dominion Governments would wish to enter into treaty relations with the Soviet Government along lines of proposed Anglo-Russian treaties, the text of which you have received in Dominions Office telegram Circular D. 213 of April 20th.[†] This might be effected either (a) by inclusion of Dominions in preamble and as separate signatories of treaties, or (b) by subsequent exchange of notes between Dominions and Soviet Government providing for Dominion Governments accession to treaties. Under either of the above procedures the understanding would be that action would not be taken by any one Dominion unless all four Dominion Governments were in agreement so to act.

It would be helpful if I might have your views for my guidance. Matter will not come to a formal proposal from here unless United Kingdom Government is assured that all four Dominion Governments would welcome opportunity to enter into such treaty relations with the Soviet Government as are suggested above.

Stalin asked Eden in Moscow whether the Dominions would be signatories to these treaties and Maisky raised the question again recently in London without, however, pressing the point. Ends.

MASSEY