

3.

DEA/196s

Le Premier ministre au secrétaire privé du Roi
Prime Minister to Private Secretary to the King

TELEGRAM

Ottawa, July 14, 1945

I thank you for your telegram of July 13th and should be grateful if you could ascertain, confidentially, whether General [sic] Alexander could be released from whatever military duties he may be designated for in future. I have asked Massey to ascertain, informally, whether Trevelyan would be prepared to accept the appointment if the King should decide to designate him.

W. L. MACKENZIE KING
 Prime Minister

4.

DEA/196s

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 2037

London, July 19, 1945

TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL. Following for the Prime Minister from Massey, Begins: Saw Trevelyan today and conveyed your message in the sense of your two telegrams.[†] He was most touched by the honour proposed, but he said he must decline not only on the ground of age but because he felt that his experience and interests did not fit him to assume the responsibilities of the office. As conversation progressed it became increasingly clear that his mind was quite made up. He asked me to convey to you his deep appreciation of the proposal, but to say that he definitely felt that he could not allow his name to be considered. Ends.

5.

DEA/196s

Le Premier ministre au secrétaire privé du Roi
Prime Minister to Private Secretary to the King

TELEGRAM

Ottawa, July 21, 1945

TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL. I thank you for your telegram of July 17th[†] advising me that from a military point of view, Alexander would be available. I have since learned from Massey that Trevelyan feels definitely that his name should not be considered for the post.

Since either Sir Harold Alexander or Lord Airlie would be entirely acceptable to the Canadian Government, I should be very glad to receive an indication of any preference His Majesty may have between them so that I can