

EXCHANGE OF NOTES (November 30, 1956, April 8 and 9, 1957) BETWEEN CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CONCERNING CERTAIN DREDGING
WORKS IN THE ST. MARY'S RIVER AND THE ST. CLAIR RIVER SECTIONS
OF THE GREAT LAKES CONNECTING CHANNELS

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*The American Ambassador to the Secretary of State for
External Affairs*

No. 143

The Ambassador of the United States of America presents his compliments to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and has the honor to refer to the Embassy's Note No. 26 of July 23, 1956⁽¹⁾, in which permission was requested to undertake certain navigation improvements in Canadian waters of the Detroit River Section of the Great Lakes Connecting Channels. The approval of the Canadian Government was conveyed to the Embassy in Note No. 266 of October 26, 1956⁽²⁾, from the Department of External Affairs.

It is now proposed to make navigation improvements in both United States and Canadian waters of the St. Mary's River and the St. Clair River Sections of the Great Lakes Connecting Channels, exclusive of the Southeast Bend of the St. Clair River. The project involves the deepening of existing channels and the disposal of the excavated material. The improvement of the Great Lakes Connecting Channels to provide increased channel dimensions in the interest of the growing needs of commerce on this important waterway was authorized on the United States side by Public Law 434, 84th Congress, approved March 21, 1956.

The features of the work in both rivers are briefly described in the enclosed summary sheets and are shown on the attached maps⁽²⁾. That portion of the project which is located in Canadian waters is specifically indicated on the maps. The map pertaining to the St. Clair River includes certain work in the vicinity of the Southeast Bend near the southerly end of the St. Clair River, but the present project does not include that part of the work.

Funds for initiating the navigation improvements in the two rivers were provided in the Civil Functions Appropriation Act, Public Law 641, 84th Congress, dated July 2, 1956. The construction program for the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, 1957, includes commencement of work in the St. Mary's River and it is anticipated that work in the St. Clair River can begin in the following fiscal year, that is, after July 1, 1957.

The United States Government would appreciate the consideration of the Canadian Government with a view to extending its approval to the proposed navigation improvements to be undertaken in the Canadian waters of the St. Mary's river and the St. Clair River Sections of the Great Lakes Connecting Channels, exclusive of the Southeast Bend area of the St. Clair River.

⁽¹⁾ Canada Treaty Series 1957, No. 9.

⁽²⁾ Maps not included.