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~~Office of the Prime Minister, Canada.~~
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Ottawa, 30th September, 1940.

Dear Mr. President,

During the last few days I have been receiving reports from the Officers in Command of our Naval Service concerning the delivery and transfer of the United States destroyers to Canada and to the United Kingdom. One of the aspects of this transfer which has been repeatedly referred to in these reports is the splendid condition in which the vessels arrived in Canada and the cordial and co-operative attitude displayed by the Officers and Crews when the transfer was actually being effected. I have been told, for example, that the vessels were so completely equipped that not only were the Mess appointments in perfect condition but the larders were stored as though the vessels were to be used for prolonged cruises with their United States personnel aboard.

I want you to know that the thoughtfulness and consideration which have been displayed in these, perhaps minor, but very characteristic actions, have been recognized and very deeply appreciated by the Canadian Naval Service and by the Government of this country as well. I hope that you will inform the responsible Officers that the way in which they have acted in arranging and carrying out the transfer of these vessels has been brought directly to my attention, and that I have asked that they should be thanked collectively and individually on behalf of the Canadian Navy, the Canadian Government and the Canadian people.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,

(39d) W. L. MACKENZIE KING.

The Honourable
Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.