

EXCHANGE OF NOTES (AUGUST 17, 1954) BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MODIFYING THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES OF JUNE 30, 1952,* CONCERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs to the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the United States Embassy in Canada.

No. X-214

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Ottawa, August 17, 1954.

SIR:

1. I have the honour to refer to the Exchange of Notes of June 30, 1952, between the Canadian Ambassador in Washington and the Acting Secretary of State of the United States, in which it was agreed that the Canadian Government would, when all arrangements had been made to ensure the completion of the power phase of the St. Lawrence Project, construct locks and canals on the Canadian side of the International Boundary to provide for uninterrupted 27-foot navigation between Lake Erie and the Port of Montreal.

2. With the co-operation of the Government of the United States, arrangements were made to ensure the completion of the power phase of the Project by the Power Authority of the State of New York and the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario. In the meantime, the Congress of the United States enacted and the President approved on May 13, 1954, Public Law 358 which created the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation and authorized and directed it to construct 27-foot navigation works on the United States side of the international section of the St. Lawrence River.

3. At the request of the United States Government, representatives of our two governments held meetings in July and August of this year to discuss the need for modification of the Notes exchanged on June 30, 1952, in the light of Public Law 358. Although the Canadian Government is ready and willing to complete the works necessary for 27-foot navigation in the St. Lawrence Seaway on Canadian territory, it understands the desire of the United States to participate in the Seaway Project by constructing certain navigation works on United States territory. Accordingly the Canadian Government is prepared to modify the arrangements set forth in the Notes of June 30, 1952, to the extent that the Canadian Government will be relieved of the obligation towards the United States Government to provide forthwith the navigation works in the general vicinity of Barnhart Island on Canadian territory and in the Thousand Islands section.

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