

Concerning the confidential briefing book, on April 20 USA Division submitted to the USSEA, at his request, a list of possible topics, for eventual approval by the PM. A memorandum dated April 28 (see attachment "B") notified ten divisions about the requirement for submitting briefing papers not later than May 4. All briefs seem to have been received by May 11; they were cleared by USSEA on May 12 and passed to the Prime Minister's Office. A copy of the Briefing Book is attachment "C". On May 12 the Prime Minister approved a short list of topics, passed informally to State Department on May 13, as likely to figure prominently in talks with the President. The word from the US Embassy was that President Kennedy had no definite list of subjects to discuss. When these confidential discussions actually took place (May 17 for more than two hours) Messrs. Heeney, R. B. Bryce and Basil Robinson accompanied Prime Minister Diefenbaker, and Messrs. Rostow, Livingstone Merchant and Ivan White accompanied the President. A 26-page Canadian Eyes Only record of these discussions is held in FAH and is also on file 12850-X-3-1-40. Also, Canadian Eyes Only telegram PM-138 of May 18, 1961, summarizes the main points of the Prime Minister's May 16 and May 17 discussions with the President (see attachment "H").

- (c) Programme (See Condensed programmes for President and Mrs. Kennedy's visit marked "D". No final printed programme ^{OR THE CMC} as issued by the Department of the Secretary of State, can be found in DEA's files)

The earliest tentative programme, including dates, resulted from conversations between a member of the Prime Minister's Office, Mr. Basil Robinson, and officials of the US Embassy. These conversations continued until about mid-April when the programme began to come into shape and meet the wishes of the principals (including the Governor General).

The following additional details can be added to the attached condensed programme:

- (i) Both the Governor General and the Prime Minister made welcoming remarks at the Airport on May 16 and the President replied; there was a Royal Salute by the RCAF guard of honour and band, together with a 21-gun salute. The whole airport ceremony lasted about 35 minutes.
- (ii) President and Mrs. Kennedy were guests at Government House for the duration of their visit, i.e., they did not move out to the US Residence after staying one night at Rideau Hall. Each planted a red oak tree to commemorate their visit, in the grounds of Government House soon after their arrival there.