

PARTIE 2/PART 2
ÉTABLISSEMENT DU CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL À NEW YORK
ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK

75.

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*Mémoire du deuxième secrétaire*⁴²

*Memorandum by Second Secretary*⁴²

Ottawa, September 19, 1942

CANADIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK

SUGGESTION FOR OPENING AN OFFICE IN CONNECTION WITH
THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WARTIME INFORMATION BOARD

The question of establishing a Canadian consular service in the United States, which has been surveyed for some time, acquires urgency in view of the decision to open a New York office of the Wartime Information Board.

Mr. Vining is of the opinion that there might be a tendency in some quarters to regard such an office as merely a temporary propaganda agency unless it were attached to an established governmental service. As it is to be located outside the capital it cannot be attached to the Legation in Washington. To be an adjunct of the Canadian Government Trade Commissioner's Office in New York would give rise to the inference that its functions were primarily commercial.

The only remaining expedient would be to attach the office to a Canadian consulate general, which is what Mr. Vining urges.

From the legal standpoint, no obstacle exists since, as was done under the authority of P.C. 2111 of May 21st, 1940,⁴³ in respect to the consulates in Greenland, Paris and Tokyo, the establishment of the consulate general in New York would be submitted for approval to His Majesty, who would issue the necessary commission. Indubitably no objection would be raised by the United States authorities.

The only matter requiring consideration is whether or not the general effect and the advantages to be derived by the Wartime Information Board would be sufficient to justify the opening of a consulate general at this juncture.

Until general consular instructions can be drafted and issued, and the relationship between the Commercial Intelligence and consular services definitely determined, it would be impossible for a Canadian consulate general to take over all the functions presently exercised on behalf of Canadian interests by the British consular service and the Canadian Government Trade Commissioner's Office in the New York district.

⁴²H. F. Feaver.

⁴³Volume 7, Document 158.