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II.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION,
Washington, August 9, 1918.

From Office of the Director of Aircraft Production

*To Chairman, International Joint Commission of the United States and Canada,
Southern Building, Washington, D.C.*

SUBJECT:

1. It seems very advisable to increase the production of aluminum, and we understand this can quickly and easily be done by allowing the permit that the Aluminum Company of America have made application for to construct a submerged weir in the St. Lawrence river at Massena, N.Y.

2. As this matter is of the greatest importance and as we understand the International Joint Commission of the United States and Canada meets next Monday, we heartily recommend immediate and favorable action on the application of the Aluminum Company of America, unless there are some specific and important navigation difficulties that present themselves to make this action inadvisable.

By direction of the Director of Aircraft Production.

M. W. KELLOGG,
Acting Director of Aircraft Production.

III.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, August 23, 1918.

THE HONOURABLE,
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION,
Washington.

SIR,—The War Industries Board is apprehensive that the supply of aluminum will not be adequate for the requirements of the Government and of our Allies, and is therefore wisely encouraging the increase of output. The War Department is, I need not say, vitally interested that there shall be at all times an adequate supply of this product to meet the requirements of our military program and of the programs of our Allies.

I am informed that the Aluminum Company of America has made application for a permit to build a submerged weir in the St. Lawrence river near Massena, New York, with a view of increasing the horsepower at that point during the months of January, February and March, to meet the interference in power at Niagara which normally occurs during the winter months. As the proposed weir is in the boundary stream, the permit, which I understand has been received from the United States Government, requires the approval of your Commission. It is believed that no disadvantage to Canadian navigation will result from such a construction.

In view of these facts, may I respectfully urge that this permit receive your approval, if consistent with the practice of your Commission.

Respectfully yours,

NEWTON D. BAKER,
Secretary of War.