

ODS/HMP.
June 7th, 1940.

C281788

Comm
MEMORANDUM FOR THE
PRIME MINISTER -

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RE PASSPORT SITUATION

Escott Reid called on the State Department yesterday morning and had a long discussion with officials there without, however, being able to learn anything definite as to why the order had been issued, or to obtain any assurance that there was a possibility of rescinding it. The people in the State Department, including the new Minister, Moffat, who would be presumed to have known something about it, had not heard a word. You will recall that last fall a similar proposal was made, and that following vigorous representations from us the proposal was dropped. Evidently the proponents of the scheme succeeded in getting it rushed through this time in order to avert any protest from us.

The new order raises great difficulties for Canada. Under the new United States order every Canadian going to the United States for a day will have to obtain a passport from Ottawa, for which the charge is \$5.00, and go or send to the nearest United States Consul to get a visa, for which he will have to pay an additional fee. We have been considering,