

It is proposed that appropriate officials of our two countries discuss the steps to be taken in proceeding with a reference of applications to the International Joint Commission for the construction of the project. A series of meetings beginning the middle of this month, either in Washington or in Ottawa, would be most appropriate for this purpose.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

H.H. Wrong

The Honourable Dean Acheson,
Secretary of State of the
United States,
Washington, D.C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington,
January 11, 1952.

Excellency:

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of January 11, 1952 concerning the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project.

My Government notes with gratification that the Canadian Parliament has passed legislation providing, on the one hand, for the construction of the power phase of the project to be undertaken by the Hydro-Electric Commission of Ontario and an appropriate agency in the United States; and on the other hand, for the establishment of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority to construct the seaway, either in cooperation with the United States as envisaged in the 1941 Agreement, or as a solely Canadian undertaking.

As you know, the President hopes that the Congress of the United States will approve, at an early date, the 1941 Agreement providing for joint construction of the St. Lawrence Project. Should the Congress, however, not approve the 1941 Agreement at an early date, the Government of the United States is prepared, in order to avoid further delay in the construction of the St. Lawrence Project, to cooperate with the Government of Canada in referring the project to the International Joint Commission