

2. Lease-lend Agreement signed by Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States in Washington, February 24, 1942. text of press statement issued at Ottawa, February 24, 1942.

The Lease-Lend Agreement, signed today in Washington on behalf of the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States, was welcomed by the Prime Minister. This Agreement between the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States on the objectives of international economic policy marks a long step forward in realizing the goal set by the United Nations in their acceptance of the Atlantic Charter. Canada will be ready to play its full part in the joint international efforts envisaged by the Agreement to expand the production, employment, exchange and consumption of goods, and to cooperate in the progressive removal of trade barriers which stand in the way of these objectives.

3. Statement of Prime Minister regarding powers given to Minister of Justice with reference to "Protected Areas", February 25, 1942.

The Prime Minister announced on February 25 that power had been given the Minister of Justice to exclude any or all persons, regardless of their citizenship, from "protected areas" as defined under the Defence of Canada Regulations. The Order-in-Council, which amends Regulation 4 of the Defence of Canada Regulations, will be tabled today. The new Regulation, which corresponds very closely to the Proclamation issued by the President of the United States on Friday, is effective at once.

Under the amended Order, the Minister of Justice may require any or all persons, whether they are British subjects or not, to leave a protected area. He is further authorized to impose such restrictions as he may specify in respect of their employment, business, movements or places of residence. He can prohibit or restrict the possession or use by any or all persons in the protected area of any specified articles and can require the delivery of such articles to the R.C.M.P. In short, the Defence of Canada Regulations as now amended give the Minister of Justice full power to take any required security measure within the Protected Area with regard to any person within that area.

The protected area in British Columbia in which the new order will apply has been defined by the Minister of National Defence as the coastal belt between the Cascade Mountains and the sea including all the islands off the coast of British Columbia.

It is the policy of the Government to use the powers of this order to take all necessary security measures to safeguard the defences of the Pacific Coast of Canada.