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- 2.

States Army vehicle was at fault. Some damage was caused to the Canadian vehicle, and the circumstances are such as would give rise to a claim for Compensation if the accident had taken place between privately owned cars.

There will doubtless be other similar incidents involving claims on the part of the United States against Canada or vice versa. This is the first case of the kind which has arisen and, as a matter of fact, the damage done was small.

I should be grateful if you would bring this incident to the attention of the United States authorities. It would not be desirable to make any claim for damages. Further, it may be premature to attempt to work out any arrangement for dealing with claims of this sort. It might, however, be worth while to ascertain in a very informal manner whether the United States authorities have any views with regard to the disposition of claims arising between the armed forces.

I am inclined to the view that the most satisfactory disposition of claims would be for each armed force to meet its own losses. There would be a good deal that might be said against the setting up of a Tribunal to deal with incidents of this sort. Further, I should think that anything in the nature of a judicial enquiry arising between armed forces working in close cooperation would be likely to produce friction and bad feeling. I am, therefore, inclined to the view that presentation or adjudication of claims might well be dispensed with. Accidents could, of course, be reported between the military authorities who were concerned for the purpose of exchange of information and enquiry into remedial measures, but not with a view to the presentation of claims for military compensation.

4. The Department has just received a report from the Canadian Minister to the United States, which is as follows:-

This question has been discussed informally with the State Department who entirely agree with your suggestion that the armed forces of each country should