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BY AIR

Office of the  
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA  
CANADA HOUSE  
LONDON, S.W.1.

16th November, 1946.

AR.13/13

No. A.967

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the case of Dr. Alan Nunn May, who, as you are aware, was sentenced in May last to ten years' imprisonment for the disclosure of secrets.

2. At the time of the sentence there was a considerable protest in this country at what was considered to be its undue severity. This protest was by no means confined to Communist and fellow-traveller circles.

3. In the House of Commons at Westminster on 5th November the Secretary of State for the Home Department was asked whether he had considered the representations that had been made to him by a number of representative organisations respecting the sentence passed on Dr. Alan Nunn May, calling for clemency; and what steps he proposed to take to reduce the sentence. Mr. Ede replied:

"I have considered the representations to which my hon. Friend refers, but I can find no sufficient ground to justify me in recommending any interference with the sentence which the court thought fit to impose".

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant

/s/ N.A. Robertson  
High Commissioner

The Right Honourable  
The Secretary of State for  
External Affairs,  
Ottawa.