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accredited to the King but with direct access to the Government, and a reciprocal arrangement was made for the British political representative at Helsingsfors.

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De jure recognition of the Finnish Government, at the moment withheld on this technicality, will consequently follow after the conclusion of the peace treaty.

The Canadian Government declared war on the Government of Finland on December 7, 1941. While Canada was among the United Nations on whose behalf an armistice agreement with Finland was signed on September 19, 1944, by the representatives of the Governments of the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom, the Canadian Government is still formally at war with Finland pending the signing of a peace treaty. As there has been continuity in the governmental system of Finland, the question of recognizing the present Finnish Government does not arise. Although Canada is still at war with Finland, there has never been an interruption of recognition.

## (v) Finnish Membership in the United Nations and Specialized Agencies

It was agreed at Potsdam that the establishment of a recognized democratic Government in Finland was essential to the conclusion of the peace treaty and that the conclusion of such a treaty was a prerequisite to membership in the United Nations. Fulfilment of these requirements would then enable the Big Three to support an application for membership.

M. Molotov submitted at the Council of Foreign Ministers that the peace treaty for Finland should include a guarantee on the part of the Allied powers to support Finland's candidature for membership in the United Nations. Finland in return would undertake to co-operate with the Allied powers and to execute such measures as they might adopt for the maintenance of world peace. In its draft the United Kingdom Government proposed that Finland should accept the arrangements made by the United Nations for the liquidation of the League of Nations and the Permanent Court of International Justice, that it should recognize the authority of all United Nations organizations already established or in contemplation, and should accept the required obligations in connection with such organizations and any conventions concluded under their auspices as might be specified. These proposals M. Molotov considered to be unnecessarily detailed and it was his view that the Soviet suggestion was quite sufficient. Mr. Bevin on the other hand declared that the United Kingdom could not at the time accept the absolute obligation postulated by the wording of the Soviet proposals to support the candidature of Finland for the United Nations but that it was prepared only to consider it.



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The United States has adhered to the principle of disassociation from questions regarding countries with which the United States was not at war but it is intimately involved in the Potsdam formula that the conclusion of a peace treaty with a recognized democratic government in Finland would enable the three governments to support an application for United Nations membership.

> W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 398, pages C280022-C280784

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