

EXCHANGE OF NOTES (DECEMBER 3 AND DECEMBER 30 1946)
BETWEEN CANADA AND THE NETHERLANDS, REGARDING
COMPENSATION FOR WAR DAMAGE.

*The Netherlands Minister to Canada
to the Secretary of State for External Affairs*

NETHERLANDS LEGATION

OTTAWA, December 3, 1946.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the third unanimous resolution adopted by the Conference on Reparation, held in December 1945, in Paris, which was signed on December 21, 1945. This resolution, as you will no doubt remember, is worded as follows:

3. Equality of Treatment regarding Compensation for War Damage.

The Conference unanimously resolves that, in the administration of reconstruction or compensation benefits for war damage to property, the treatment accorded by each Signatory Government to physical persons who are nationals of any other Signatory Government, so far as they have not been compensated after the war for the same property under any other form or on any other occasion, shall be in principle not less favourable than that which the Signatory Government accords to its own nationals. In view of the fact that there are many special problems of reciprocity related to this principle, it is recognized that in certain cases the actual implementation of the principle cannot be achieved except through special agreements between Signatory Governments.

My Government has now instructed me to inform the Canadian Government of their readiness, in principle, to treat Canadian citizens and institutions or corporations under Canadian jurisdiction, in respect of compensation of war damage to property situated in the Netherlands, on the same basis as Netherlands nationals, institutions and corporations. This readiness of the Netherlands Government is based on the above-mentioned resolution which pre-supposes reciprocity and is therefore subject to an undertaking by the Canadian Government to extend to Netherlands nationals and Netherlands institutions and corporations the same facilities of compensation for war damage as they make or have made applicable to Canadian nationals.

My Government regrets to point out that the undertaking with respect to national treatment cannot, at the present moment, be understood to apply to territories in the Netherlands East Indies because no decision has as yet been taken by the Netherlands East Indies Government. My Government, however, wishes to express the hope, that a similar arrangement will soon be possible in respect of the Netherlands East Indies.

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

SNOUCK HURGRONJE