

policy and if, in fact, a similar letter will be written to the Canadian government again once you people have returned to Washington?

MR. HAIG: You obviously know more about it than I do and that is my handicap. I heard about this letter yesterday. It was a letter that flowed out of the continuing give and take at lower levels in our respective departments and it did not represent the opinion of myself or, I think, the administration. It was mostly an atmospheric and tonal problem.

I think both of our leaders have commented at length about the issue of the national energy programme and I am not going to add any more fuel to that fire because we are going to proceed in a way that it is not going to be a fire and we are going to establish a framework for continuous dialogue between the United States and Canada, and that was one of the things we discussed this morning and it is in train.

I do not want to suggest to you that every piece of paper that comes from south of the border necessarily represents -- hopefully, we are going to get it as close to that as we can but...

Q. The fact that this letter was withdrawn by the State Department, that indicates a change in