



No. 16

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1965.

Signing of Canada-U.S. Agreement Concerning Gut Dam
Claims

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, and the United States Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency W. Walton Butterworth, today signed an Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America concerning the establishment of an international arbitral Tribunal to dispose of United States claims relating to Gut Dam. (A copy of the Agreement is annexed.)

These claims arose in 1951 and 1952. At that time there were unusually high water levels on Lake Ontario. Residents of the United States owning real estate on the south shore of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence complained that these high water levels were attributable in whole or in part to the construction by the Government of Canada of a small navigation improvement in the international section of the river known as "Gut Dam".

The construction of Gut Dam was carried out at the beginning of the century in pursuance to arrangements entered into between the Canadian and United States Governments of the day. Gut Dam itself was removed in 1953 as part of the St. Lawrence