

**EXCHANGE OF NOTES (MARCH 7, APRIL 5, AND JUNE 22, 1939)  
CONSTITUTING AN ARRANGEMENT RELATING TO VISITS IN  
UNIFORM BY MEMBERS OF DEFENCE FORCES BETWEEN  
CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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*The Canadian Minister at Washington to the  
United States Secretary of State*

No. 58

His Majesty's Minister for Canada presents his compliments to the Secretary of State and has the honour to refer to the question of securing permission for individual members of the Canadian Defence Forces to visit the United States in uniform. This question was raised in the final paragraph of a note from Secretary of State dated December 10th, 1927. The matter of dispensing with the formality of making application through the diplomatic channel in such cases has received the attention of the interested Canadian authorities.

In the view of the Department of National Defence it is not desirable to dispense with all formality in connection with visits of individual members of the defence forces in uniform from either country to the territory of the other; it is thought to be questionable whether it would be in the national interest to do so and breaches of etiquette or of the law by visitors in uniform are apt to assume a significant importance.

However in referring to the intimation made by the United States authorities that it is unnecessary to make a specific request for permission for individual members of the defence forces in uniform to visit the United States the Department of National Defence is prepared to issue instructions that individuals of the Canadian Militia Service are not to proceed to the United States in uniform, or to wear uniform when in the United States without first obtaining permission from the District Officer Commanding by whom a pass will be given to the individual stating the occasion and the period for which the necessary authority has been granted. In the case of the personnel of the Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Canadian Air Force the necessary authorization will be issued from National Defence headquarters.

In outlining the proposed procedure which the Canadian authorities are willing to apply in the future it would be appreciated if the Legation might be informed whether a similar procedure would be acceptable to the competent authorities of the United States Government. The procedure would be that specific requests for permission for individual members of United States Defence Forces to visit Canada need not be made through the diplomatic channel and that individuals of the United States Defence Forces visiting Canada in uniform should obtain the permission of their Corps or other appropriate commander and be prepared to show such "pass" to the Canadian immigration inspector at the port of entry.

It is stated that at the present time the Canadian Immigration authorities do not permit entry of uniformed members of the Forces of another country unless permission has been obtained therefor through the diplomatic channel. In the event however that the proposal outlined above is agreeable to the