



No. 75

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Reference to the International Joint Commission on Pollution  
in the Red River

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, today announced that the Governments of Canada and the United States of America have placed jointly before the International Joint Commission a Reference on pollution in the Red River. The Text of this Reference is as follows:

"I have the honour to advise you that the Governments of the United States and Canada have been informed that the waters crossing the international boundary in the Red River are polluted by sewage and industrial wastes. Having in mind the provisions of Article IV of the Boundary Waters Treaty signed January 11, 1909, that boundary waters and waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other side, the two Governments have agreed upon a joint Reference of the matter to the International Joint Commission, pursuant to the provisions of Article IX of said Treaty. The Commission is requested to inquire into and to report to the two Governments upon the following questions:

- (1) Are the waters referred to in the preceding paragraph being polluted on either side of the international boundary to an extent which is causing, or likely to cause, injury to health or property on the other side of the boundary?
- (2) If the foregoing question is answered in the affirmative, to what extent, by what causes, and in what localities is such