

The Americans in our Forces came to us when their country was still at peace. They came because they knew that Hitler was as much the enemy of the United States as he was the enemy of Canada. We were grateful to them for enlisting in our Forces - grateful to them because of the assistance which they freely gave us and grateful because they were living proofs - proofs were needed - of the sympathy and support of their country for our cause. We shall always remain grateful to them. These sixteen thousand men were forerunners of the hundreds of thousands, the millions of their fellow citizens who are today enlisted in the struggle against the Axis".

Most of the United States citizens who have been transferred to the Armed Forces of the United States have come from the Royal Canadian Air Force. On behalf of the Royal Canadian Air Force, the Minister of National Defence for Air has written to the Prime Minister of Canada as follows:

"The Joint Canadian-American Military Board recently formed to repatriate American citizens in the Canadian Armed Forces has completed its proceedings and to me, the time seems appropriate to despatch a letter of appreciation to the United States authorities for the services rendered in Canada, and to the R.C.A.F. in particular, by those American citizens who early in the war came to our assistance and, of their own volition, volunteered for service in the initial organization and operation of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, conducted under the direction of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

These young men from the United States came to Canada and applied themselves whole-heartedly to the early stages of our planning and training programmes and without a doubt their valued assistance has been greatly responsible for the successes which have far surpassed our original expectations.

We know that, on repatriation to the United States Armed Forces, the officers and men who have been so valuable to the Royal Canadian Air Force will continue to apply themselves to the war effort of the United States of America in the same capable manner and thereby further the common cause of our two countries towards final victory. It is with sincere regret, but pride in the part that they played, that we part with the Americans who fitted into our organization and formed such a formidable team with our own Canadian airmen.

The Royal Canadian Air Force would like to have conveyed to these young men their gratitude for past services, and sincere wishes for their future successful careers with the Armed Forces of the United States of America. It is