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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA, November 29, 1948.

ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS TO CANADIAN CITIZENS OUTSIDE CANADA
AFTER 1ST JANUARY, 1949.

(In this memorandum "passport facilities" includes renewal or endorsement of passports, as well as issuance of new passports.)

1. In countries in which there is a Canadian passport office, United Kingdom and Colonial passport issuing officers who receive requests or applications for passport facilities from persons who appear to be Canadian citizens are asked to refer the applicants to the appropriate Canadian passport issuing office in that country, whether it be a Canadian Embassy, High Commissioner's Office, Legation, Consulate, or Canadian Government Trade Commissioner's Office.

2. In countries where there is no Canadian passport issuing office, United Kingdom and Colonial passport issuing officers who receive requests or applications for passport facilities from persons who appear to be Canadian citizens, are asked to transmit such applications to the appropriate Canadian passport issuing office, having in mind, proximity, reliability of means of communication and transference of fees. When there are no difficulties in the way of direct communication from the applicant to the appropriate Canadian passport issuing office, the applicant can be expected to conduct his own correspondence. However, any assistance which can be rendered to applicants for Canadian passports would be greatly appreciated, particularly when there is difficulty in communication.

3. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2, United Kingdom and Colonial passport offices in places in which there is no Canadian passport office, are asked, in cases of real urgency where delay would be harmful, to exercise their discretion:

- (a) To issue a United Kingdom and Colonies passport to a Canadian citizen in which he will be described simply as a British subject, and
- (b) To renew existing Canadian or British passports held by Canadian citizens.

Such new passports or renewals would be made valid normally only for six months (one year at the most), and the person would be advised to use that period to obtain passport facilities from a Canadian passport office.

4. It is not intended to issue detailed instructions since Canadian and United Kingdom officers in the field will, in consultation, be able to devise mutually advantageous methods of handling and expediting the business with due regard to local conditions.