

diplomatic relations will not affect these Consulates as Vichy has or will shortly have no more authority over North Africa. The State Department is sending us a note indicating that they are no longer in a position to protect our interests in France. This note has not yet been received but if the expression France is not used some other wording will indicate that the protection of our interests is no longer possible in territory controlled by the Vichy Government or something to that effect.

I venture to presume that you will agree with the action taken in this respect.

94.

DEA/1954-G-40

*Le ministre aux États-Unis au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*  
*Minister in United States to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELETYPE WA-3403

Washington, November 11, 1942

IMMEDIATE. SECRET. In continuation of my WA-3381 of November 10th, 1942, concerning the transfer of the protection of Canadian interests from the United States to Switzerland, in non-occupied France, the State Department have sent us a note, dated November 10th, 1942, which was received this morning. The text of this note reads as follows:

“I have the honour to inform you that in view of the rupture of diplomatic relations between France and the United States this Government is no longer in a position to represent Canadian interests in France.

“The Department’s representatives in France have been directed provisionally to entrust to their Swiss colleagues the protection of Canadian interests and to deliver to the Swiss representative against receipt any balance of Canadian funds on hand.

“The Department assumes that the Canadian Government will in due course communicate to the Swiss Government its wishes concerning the disposition of Canadian interests in France.

“Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration,” Signed, Breckinridge Long. Ends.

You will note that as indicated in the concluding paragraph of my message under reference, that the expression France is the one which has been used in the Department of State’s note. Nothing is said of French colonies or possessions, and it is therefore safe to presume that the United States will continue to protect our interests in these areas. The situation will have clarified no doubt in the course of the next week or so and the question of the transferring of our interests in the former French colonies will be again discussed with the Special Division in the Department of State and a further report submitted.<sup>47</sup>

<sup>47</sup>La Grande-Bretagne assumait la protection des intérêts canadiens lors de la réouverture des consulats britanniques dans les possessions françaises.

<sup>47</sup>Great Britain assumed the protection of Canadian interests when British consulates reopened in French possessions.