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PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S VISIT TO BIRCH ISLAND,
LITTLE CURRENT, ONTARIO IN AUGUST 1943

This was a wholly private three or four-day fishing trip holiday taken by President Roosevelt at Birch Island, Little Current, Ontario starting on August 1, 1943. The only official notice which Ottawa took of this private visit was to inform customs and immigration officials; obtain from the Controller of Oil (the latter commodity was strictly rationed during the war) a supply of gasoline and oil for the fishing boats and automobiles of the presidential party; arrange with the CPR a clearance for the President's special train; and authorize Canadian Censorship to delete from all media any news or speculation about President Roosevelt's movements. The Canadian Minister in Washington telegraphed Mr. Norman Robertson from Little Current, Ontario on August 1, 1943 saying "Everything here going splendidly. Chief Guest delighted. Fishing good".

Source: Department of External Affairs file 53-VT-40