

TELEGRAM

C190097 ;

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

IMMEDIATE

LONDON, January 15, 1946.

SECRET & PERSONAL

CYPHER

NO. 138

No. 138. Secret and Personal. Following for the
Prime Minister from Minister of Justice, Begins:

ASDEL No. 14.

Friday evening General Pope, on eve of departure for
Berlin, dined with Mr. Massey and heard in conversation of
your recommendation of a Secretary to the Field Marshal.
He was surprised and blurted out views concerning his
fitness which so alarmed his host that he phoned me to come
in and hear them. Pope seemed reluctant to say much, but
did state that our Washington friends had expressed similar
views on two occasions when this person's possible fitness
for diplomatic service was being canvassed. In view of
possible embarrassment which might arise later if one
recommended by you proved to be disappointing, Mr. Massey
and I both urged Pope to communicate his views to you.
Later I discussed this with Wrong confidentially and learned
that he knew person recommended quite well from relations
both in Ottawa and Washington, and, though surprised at
recommendation, did not share the anxiety Pope's views
might occasion. This somewhat reassured me but Pope has
left and, on the whole, because of the importance of the
post, I feel I should inform you how the incident arose,
with some indication of what was said by both Pope and Wrong,
so that you may yourself determine if further enquiry would
appear desirable. With most sincere regards. Ends.

HIGH COMMISSIONER