

C161654

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

Mr. Leslie Roberts called in this morning to see me and asked again whether there was any possibility of having an interview with you before he left for Montreal this afternoon.

I told him that it had been a very bad week and that you were severely pressed and, in view of this, he asked if I would send on to you a letter setting forth the matter concerning which he wished to speak with you. The letter is attached hereto and describes an article which Mr. Roberts is preparing for publication in the Saturday Evening Post on United States-Canadian cooperation in Defence. Mr. Roberts has attached to his letter a number of questions upon which he would like your views not necessarily perhaps for quotation, but presumably to provide authoritative guidance for his article.

While the problem Mr. Roberts is treating is a real and important problem which might benefit from an objective and understanding treatment, it seems to me that too direct a suggestion of official views along the line he indicates might give rise to misunderstanding and misinterpretation not only by the imperialistic element to which Mr. Roberts refers, but more dangerously by the isolationist and anti-Soviet groups in the United States and by the Russians themselves.

With this thought in mind, I have drafted a possible reply which is attached and which might be of some use.

R. G. R.

(*R. G. ROBERTS ON*)

Ottawa, February 2, 1946.