

(b) Exchange of Diplomatic Representatives between Canada and the U.S.S.R. statement by Prime Minister June 12, 1942

Right Hon. W.L. MacKenzie King (Prime Minister):
 Hon. members will recall that I informed the house on February 5 that the government of Canada and the government of the U.S.S.R. had signed an agreement in London on that date providing for the exchange of consular representatives.

The Canadian government have come to the conclusion that it is desirable to establish a Canadian legation in the U.S.S.R. on a reciprocal basis, and we have now been informed that the Soviet government accept the Canadian government's proposal and that they desire to establish a legation in Canada. We understand that the Soviet government will also establish a consulate at Halifax.

I am glad to be able to announce, therefore, that an agreement for the exchange of diplomatic missions between Canada and the U.S.S.R. was signed in London to-day at 5 p.m. London time. The text of this agreement, which was signed by Mr. Massey on behalf of Canada and by Mr. Maisky on behalf of the U.S.S.R. reads as follows

The government of the U.S.S.R. and the government of Canada have reached an agreement as follows:

1. The two governments have agreed to establish direct diplomatic relations and exchange ministers.
2. The present agreement comes into force immediately after its signature and is not subject to ratification.
3. The present agreement is made in two copies, each of them in the Russian and English languages. Both texts have equal force.

(c) Message from the Prime Minister of Canada to the People of the U.S.S.R. for publication on June 22, 1942

I welcome this opportunity to send to the gallant peoples of Soviet Russia a word of greeting on behalf of the men and women of Canada. A year ago, the German armies struck at the heart of Russia, only to meet the combined resistance of the Russian people who rallied to the defence of their homeland, and thus, to the defence of the cause of freedom against aggression everywhere in the world. In the bitter months of fighting on the Russian front, the Red armies, supported by a united and resolute nation, have resisted the attack of the common enemy with a forcefulness and determination that have aroused the profound admiration of the civilized world.

In this world-wide struggle against Axis domination the fighting fronts are many, but the enemy is always one and the same. On land, on sea and in the air, Canada's fighting men maintain a ceaseless vigil against the same foe. On the home front, the factories and fields of Canada are working night and day to produce the sinews of war. In ever growing numbers, men and machines are leaving Canada to take up their battle stations.