

PRESS RELEASE



COMMUNIQUÉ

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1962.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, today announced that the Governments of Canada and the United States have requested the International Joint Commission to investigate and report on what measures could be taken to develop the water resources of the Pembina River in the Province of Manitoba and the State of North Dakota.

The International Joint Commission was established, pursuant to the terms of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, in order to facilitate the settlement of questions of mutual interest to Canada and the United States in the general field of boundary waters and related matters.

This new Reference has been made by Governments in light of the conclusion of the Commission that detailed feasibility studies concerning possible development of the Pembina River basin should be undertaken.

The Commission has been requested by Governments to determine what plan or plans of co-operative development of the water resources of the Pembina River basin would be practicable, economically feasible and to the mutual advantage of both countries. The Commission is asked to bear in mind the requirements of domestic water supply and sanitation, control of floods, irrigation and any other beneficial uses of these waters. Governments have further asked the Commission, in the event that it finds a plan or plans meeting these criteria, to make recommendations concerning the choice and implementation of such plan or plans.