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**VISITS BY PRESIDENTS  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
TO CANADA**

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



AFFAIRES EXTERIEURES

MEMORANDUM

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SUBJECT Visit of President Nixon April 13 to 15, 1972  
Sujet

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ENCLOSURES  
Annexes

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We attach a booklet giving some brief historical information about previous presidential visits to Canada. Apart from its intrinsic interest, it may be useful in preparing for President Nixon's forthcoming visit.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
U.S.A. Division

VISITS BY PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES  
TO CANADA

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A REVIEW  
of the  
VISITS OF UNITED STATES PRESIDENTS  
TO CANADA  
1923-1969

		<u>page number</u>
VISIT I	President Harding to Vancouver, July 26, 1923..... (one attachment)	1
VISIT II	President Roosevelt to Campobello, Island, June 30- July 1, 1933.....	2
VISIT III	President Roosevelt to Campobello, Island, July 1936....	3
VISIT IV	President Roosevelt to Campobello, Island, July/August 1938..	4
VISIT V	President Roosevelt to Kingston, Ontario, August 18, 1938...	5
VISIT VI	President Roosevelt to Little Current, Ontario, August 1943..	6
VISIT VII	President Roosevelt to (Quebec and) Ottawa, August 25, 1943..	7
VISIT VIII	President Roosevelt to Quebec, September 11-16, 1944.....	8
VISIT IX	President Truman to Ottawa, July 10-12, 1947..... (three attachments)	9
VISIT X	President Eisenhower to Ottawa, November 13-14, 1953..... (four attachments)	12
VISIT XI	President Eisenhower to Ottawa, July 8-11, 1958..... (nine attachments)	16
VISIT XII	President Kennedy to Ottawa, May 16-18, 1961..... (nine attachments)	22
VISIT XIII	President Johnson to Vancouver, September 16, 1964.....	25
VISIT XIV	President Johnson to Campobello Island, August 21, 1966...	26
VISIT XV	President Johnson to EXPO '67 and Harrington Lake, May 25, 1967.....	27
VISIT XVI	President Nixon to St Lawrence Seaway, June 27, 1969....	28

I

VISIT OF PRESIDENT HARDING TO VANCOUVER, JULY 26, 1923

The first visit of any President of the United States to Canada was that of President Harding to Vancouver in July 1923. While Mr. W.H. Taft (US President from 1909-13) had a summer home at Murray Bay on the St Lawrence River, he never vacationed there while he was President. There is nothing in External Affairs files about President Harding's presidential party or programme, while in Vancouver. However Hansard of March 20, 1924 and April 25, 1924 records that the publisher (Mr. R.J. Cromie) of the Vancouver Sun presented to the National Press Gallery in Washington a large painting commemorating the historic visit and portraying President Harding "on the occasion of his addressing some forty thousand citizens of Canada in Stanley Park". Before its presentation, the Vancouver Sun had the painting exhibited in a number of Canadian cities including Ottawa, where it was on view in April 1924 in Birks' store. Prime Minister W.L. Mackenzie King, in an attempt to give a national character to the Washington presentation sent the following telegram on February 15, 1924 to the Vancouver Sun:

"On the occasion of the Sun's presentation to the National Press Gallery at Washington of the picture commemorating President Harding's greeting to the Canadian people at Vancouver, it gives me great pleasure to associate myself in the proceedings by expressing the hope that the feelings of mutual trust and good-will which the presentation symbolizes, and which it was Mr. Harding's aim to promote, may ever continue to subsist and strengthen as time goes on."

A partial text of President Harding's speech in Stanley Park is given in the Canadian Annual Review, 1923. (See attachment marked "A")

Sources: Hansard, March 20, 1924 pp 505-6; April 15, 1924 p 1366  
Department of External Affairs file 1922-799 is missing and presumed to have been destroyed  
Canadian Annual Review, 1923, pp 83-84

The part of the Speech most widely-commented upon related to political union, and Mr. Harding, whose courtesy led him to speak of Canada annexing his country, said:

Do not encourage any enterprise looking to Canada's annexation of the United States. You are one of the most capable governing peoples of the world, but I entreat you, for your own sakes, to think twice before undertaking management of the territory which lies between the Great Lakes and the Rio Grande. No, let us go our own gaits along parallel roads, you helping us and we helping you. So long as each country maintains its independence, and both recognize their interdependence, those paths cannot fail to be highways of progress and prosperity.

This point of view, generally approved of in Canada, met with a similar reception in the United States. It caused, however, some adverse comment. On July 27 the *New York Evening World* said: "President Harding's advice to Canada, given in his Vancouver speech to 'Go her own Gait' was rather an unnecessary pronouncement. He may be proclaiming against destiny. . . . Yet the day must come when Canada will turn to the United States as an elder brother and ask to come in. The North-West is largely American now; the French, a menace to English-speaking control in the East."

This indicated that the talk of secession from the rest of Canada, occasionally heard in the Canadian West, was thought, in some circles in the United States, to be significant of a movement for annexation.

The friendly relations between the two countries received new emphasis when, on Sept. 4, Charles E. Hughes, the American Secretary of State, was the guest of honour at a banquet in Montreal given by the Canadian Government at the time of the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Canadian Bar Association. The Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King presided and Mr. Hughes' topic was "The Pathway of Peace". In the most significant paragraphs he made a proposal for a permanent Commission to deal with all matters at issue between the United States and Canada. He said:

We have at this time, under our Treaty of 1909 relating to boundary waters and questions arising along the boundary between Canada and the United States, an International Joint Commission with powers of investigation and report within the scope of the treaty. While I do not undertake to speak officially upon this subject, I may take the liberty of stating, as my personal view, that we should do much to foster our friendly relations and to remove sources of misunderstanding and possible irritation if we were to have a permanent body of our most distinguished citizens acting as a commission, with equal representation of both the United States and Canada to which automatically there would be referred, for examination and report as to the facts, questions arising as to the bearing of action by either Government upon the interests of the other, to the end that each, reasonably protecting its own interests, would be so advised that it would avoid action inflicting unnecessary injury upon its neighbour.

**The Question of Annexation to the United States.** The death, on Aug. 2, of Warren G. Harding, President of the United States, occurred only a few days after, in the course of a visit to Alaska, he had stopped in British Columbia and had spoken in public in Vancouver, on July 26. It was the first time that a President of the United States had visited Canada during his term of office. Mr. Harding was greeted with a salute of twenty-one guns from H.M.S. *Curlew*, lying in the harbour. He spoke from the Grandstand in Stanley Park to a throng of forty thousand people.

"We think the same thoughts," said the President, "live the same lives and cherish the same aspirations of service to each other in times of need. Thousands of your brave lads perished in gallant and generous action for the preservation of our Union. Many of our young men followed Canadian colours to the battlefields of France before we entered the War and left their proportion of killed to share the graves of your intrepid sons."

A further evidence of our increasing inter-dependence appears in the shifting of capital. Since the Armistice, I am informed, approximately \$2,500,000,000 has found its way from the United States into Canada for investment. That is a huge sum of money and I have no doubt is employed safely for us and helpfully for you. Most gratifying to you, moreover, should be the circumstance that one-half of that great sum has gone for purchase of your state and municipal bonds—a tribute, indeed, to the scrupulous maintenance of your credit, to a degree equalled only by your Mother country across the sea and your sister country across the hardy visible border."

II. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AT CAMPOBELLO ISLAND, JUNE 30-JULY 1, 1933

The second visit of a U.S. President to Canada was from June 30-July 1, 1933 when President Franklin D. Roosevelt accompanied by his three sons and four guests, and travelling on his yawl Amberjack II, had a two-day vacation at the Roosevelt summer home on Campobello Island, Passamaquoddy Bay, New Brunswick. As a boy, Mr. Roosevelt had spent most of his summers on the island where his father had built a summer place in the 1880's. The President's party totalling some 75 persons included four secretaries, six Secret Service men (on board the accompanying navy cruiser Indianapolis, the navy destroyers Bernadou and Ellis and the naval tender Cuyahoga) and eight newspapermen, eight photographers and two telegraph representatives (on board two following vessels). At the specific request of President Roosevelt, this two-day visit was considered as wholly informal and unofficial. While residents of Campobello Island arranged a regatta, a baseball game and a community dance for the occasion, the President attended none of the festivities although members of the visiting naval party enjoyed them. The only official notice which Ottawa took of the visit was to inform the Governor General who despatched a welcoming telegram to President Roosevelt; to arrange for customs clearances; to request all courtesies from the Immigration authorities; to provide a detachment of about 20 RCMP officers whose job was to deter the intrusion of unauthorized persons on the Roosevelt property on Campobello Island; and to have a federal Cabinet Minister informally welcome the President to Campobello Island. The President had noted earlier that he would be happy "to shake hands" on the wharf with "a representative of each of the three governments concerned - federal, provincial and municipal." The Premier of New Brunswick was on hand at the welcoming on the wharf and so was the Mayor of the island's only village.

Source: Department of External Affairs file 53-Z-1933



III.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S VISIT IN JULY 1936

The only reference to this visit occurs in the Governor-General's Speech from the Throne on January 14, 1937, when he said:

"The visit of the President of the United States to Canada in July last year was a much appreciated expression of international friendliness and goodwill."

Since there is no Departmental file on this visit, it is presumed it was a visit to his summer home at Campobello Island.

Source: Hansard (session 1937, Vol. 1) p.3 on Jan. 14, 1937

IV.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S VISIT IN AUGUST, 1938

The only reference to this visit occurs in the Governor-General's Speech from the Throne on January 12, 1939, when he said:

"The official visit paid Canada in August last by the President of the United States was the occasion of unusually warm demonstrations of friendship and understanding upon both sides of our common border."

Since there is no Departmental file on this visit, it is presumed it was a visit to his summer home on Campobello Island.

Source: Hansard (session 1939, Vol. 1) p.3 on Jan. 12, 1939

V. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S VISIT TO KINGSTON, ONTARIO  
AUGUST 18, 1938

As well as briefly visiting his summer home at Campobello Island, President Roosevelt paid a second visit to Canada in 1938 when on August 18 he visited Kingston, as a guest of the Government of Canada, for the special Convocation of Queen's University when an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on him. After lunching at the University, the President took part in the dedication ceremonies at the inauguration of the Thousand Islands Bridge at Ivy Lea. Prime Minister Mackenzie King was present at both the Convocation and the opening of the International Bridge.

When addressing the Convocation at Queen's University President Roosevelt said inter alia:

"The Dominion of Canada is part of the sisterhood of the British Empire. I give to you assurance that the people of the United States will not stand idly by if domination of Canadian soil is threatened by any other empire."

Source

Hansard (Session 1939 Vol. III) p. 2420 March 30, 1939  
DEA file 1938 - 359

VI

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-VI-40

VII. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S VISIT TO OTTAWA, AUGUST 25, 1943

On the day following the conclusion of the First Quebec Conference (attended by Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt), President Roosevelt visited Ottawa for one day, August 25, 1943, on the invitation of Prime Minister Mackenzie King. Mr. King's secret and personal message to the President had said inter alia "... I am most anxious to have you as the first President to visit Canada's capital. I would have Members of Parliament return to Ottawa to meet you on Parliament Hill, where a few words addressed in the open in front of the Parliament Buildings would be all that would be expected".

The day's programme included the short address (President Roosevelt stood at the top of the steps under the Peace Tower), the President's out-of-door receiving of the diplomatic corps and members of Parliament who had returned to Ottawa; the placing of a wreath on the National War Memorial; lunch privately with the Prime Minister; and a drive around Ottawa and environs, including Kingsmere.

Sources: Department of External Affairs Annual Report 1943  
External Affairs Monthly Bulletin, November 1943  
Hansard (Session 1944 Vol. III) p.2175  
Department of External Affairs files 88(s) and 53-VT-40C

VIII. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S VISIT TO QUEBEC, SEPT. 11-16, 1944

President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill accompanied by their military chiefs of staff visited Quebec again from September 11-16, 1944, for the Second Quebec Conference. DEA records show that Prime Minister Mackenzie King, as host, gave an official reception on September 13 and a Roosevelt-Churchill press conference was held on September 16.

Source: Department of External Affairs Annual Report, 1944

IX. PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S VISIT TO OTTAWA, JUNE 10-12, 1947

On this state visit President Truman was accompanied by Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman.

(a) The Presidential party also included eleven secretaries, assistants, aides, etc; twenty-one members of the US Secret Service; two members of the White House staff and eleven members of the Presidential plane crew. The Government of Canada assumed all hotel expenses in the Chateau Laurier for the persons staying there as well as for all members of the presidential advance party which was headed by a member of the US Secret Service. While the Government of Canada requested hotel accommodation for the large group of US press representatives and news photographers which followed the President, it did not assume any responsibility for the payment of their expenses. The usual letters were written to the Director of Customs as well as Immigration requesting all courtesies for the President and his party, including news personnel.

(b) Programme (see attachments "A" - Programme, and "B" - Programme (Confidential) for Office Use Only, issued by the Department of the Secretary of State)

June 10

3:30 p.m. Arrival by train at Island Park Drive. Met by Governor-General and Viscountess Alexander, Prime Minister and Mme. St. Laurent and many other notables. A motorcade of eleven cars proceeded to Rideau Gate where a Royal Salute was given by a Guard of Honour followed by an inspection of the Guard.

8:00 p.m. State Dinner at Government House.

9:45 p.m. Reception at Government House (Guests did not include Senators and MPs since they were to attend the June 11 parliamentary luncheon)

Programme (cont'd)

June 11

- 10:20 a.m. President visits US Embassy and meets members of the Staff
- 11:25 a.m. President walks over to the Parliament Buildings and visits the Peace Tower
- 11:45 a.m. Prime Minister introduces (in about a 10-minute speech) the President to a joint session of both Houses in the Commons Chamber. President Truman speaks for about 22 minutes (The Canadian Embassy, Washington, on June 7 was able to obtain a rough draft of the President's speech). The Speakers of the Senate and House of Commons thanked the President in speeches of 3 and 4 minutes respectively.  
/It is worth noting that the CBC had allotted 45 minutes on the radio to cover the proceedings in the Commons Chamber/
- 12:40 p.m. President places a wreath at the National War Memorial
- approx 1:15 p.m. Parliamentary luncheon by the Government of Canada for the President at the Chateau Laurier /Since this luncheon was for parliamentarians only, wives were not invited/ followed by all the guests being presented to the President.
- 8:00 p.m. President and Mrs. Truman dine privately with Prime Minister King at Laurier House

June 12

- Free of formal engagements. The President and his immediate party were guests of the US Ambassador at the Seignior Club, Quebec
- 8:00 p.m. Dinner at the Residence of the US Ambassador
- 11:00 p.m. Departure by train



(c) Press Arrangements

Prime Minister King made a statement in the House of Commons on June 2 about the forthcoming visit of President Truman. This was followed immediately by a Press Release issued by the Department of the Secretary of State outlining the June 10-12 programme. The files do not contain any Press Release or Communiqué issued at the end of the visit; neither was there any discussion of a press release. Mr. A. Anderson, Head of DEA's Information Division and a member of the Interdepartmental Committee, wrote a memo dated July 25, 1947 (see attachment marked "C") noting the problems of handling information work for such visits and suggesting ways of improving the procedure for future visits. Mr. Anderson's memorandum also describes generally the procedures set up for the visit. The Prime Minister proposed to Cabinet, which agreed, that an Interdepartmental Committee be formed under the Chairmanship of the Secretary of State, Mr. Coleman. The Interdepartmental Committee's membership was drawn from the Departments of Transport, National Defence, External Affairs, Prime Minister's Office, Government House, RCMP, Public Works and Railway officials.

Sources: Department of External Affairs Annual Report, 1947  
DEA Monthly Bulletin, June 1947  
Hansard (Session 1947 Vol. V) pp. 4060-4065 for June 11, 1947  
Department of External Affairs files 53-ATW-40C, 53-ATW-1-40C,  
53-VT-40, 53-GK-40 (all these Departmental files are in the  
Public Archives on Wellington Street)

X

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S VISIT TO OTTAWA,  
NOVEMBER 13-14, 1953

Introduction

Prime Minister St. Laurent's congratulatory letter of January 20, 1953 to President Eisenhower when he assumed office contained the following paragraph:

"I hope I may before long have the pleasure of calling upon you in Washington and I can assure you of a most cordial welcome by the Government and people of Canada if you find it possible to maintain the happy tradition established by your predecessors in office by visiting Ottawa."

After Prime Minister St Laurent made his visit to President Eisenhower in Washington in May 1953 the invitation was re-extended for the latter to visit Ottawa later in the year which the President did on November 13-14, 1953 accompanied by Mrs. Eisenhower. The Governor General's letter of invitation to the President and Mrs. Eisenhower was transmitted by the Canadian Embassy, Washington on or about October 10, 1953. The visit was labelled an official courtesy visit.

- (a) The Presidential Party on the train totalled 18 persons plus an unknown number of US Secret Service men. No State Department officials accompanied the President since there was an agreement between Prime Minister St. Laurent and US Ambassador Stuart that there need be no discussion of political and economic questions. The visit, while official, was to be purely a courtesy visit. In fact, the President declared publicly that he did not intend to discuss either continental defence or the St Lawrence Project. SSEA and Mrs. Pearson, US Ambassador and Mrs. Stuart and the Secretary to the Governor General welcomed the President at the Canadian border (see attachment "A" p 11 Visit to Canada - Arrangements issued by the Department of the Secretary of State). Approximately 25 US press, radio, newsreel and television representatives were in pullman cars attached to the presidential train from Washington. The Department of course wrote the customary letters to Citizenship and Immigration and Customs and Excise requesting all courtesies for the presidential party and newsmen.

- (b) Procedures: Details of the President's visit were arranged directly between the US Embassy in Ottawa and the Prime Ministers Office (See memorandum of October 2, 1957 on file 11912-40). US Ambassador Stuart "firmed up" the programme at a meeting with the President in Washington.

Early in October, USA Division began making plans for the establishment of an Interdepartmental Committee after/USSEA the designated that Division as the focal point for arrangements. A letter of October 6, 1953, signed by Assistant Under-Secretary R.M. Macdonnell was sent out asking the following persons/departments/agencies to send representatives to the committee's first meeting on October 13: Under-Secretary of State; D/M of National Defence; Secretary to the Governor-General; Commissioner of the R.C.M.P.; D/M of Public Works; Secretary to the Prime Minister; Clerk of the Senate (by a special letter from the Committee's chairman, Mr. Macdonnell) and Clerk of the House of Commons (by a special letter from the Committee's chairman, Mr. Macdonnell). In addition to the Chairman, DEA had two persons on the Interdepartmental Committee - Head of USA Division and the Department's Press Officer - and also provided a secretary for the Committee.

The Interdepartmental Committee set up a sub-committee for press arrangements with Mr. Freifeld as chairman and membership from RCMP, NFB, CBC AND others as required. Another decision, taken at the Committee's first meeting, in addition to setting up the sub-committee, was that while Government House would invite guests to the State dinner, and the Parliamentary authorities would be in charge of the President's visit to Parliament, and the US Embassy would issue invitations to the President's dinner, insofar as Canadian government departments were concerned, Mr. Howard Measures of the Secretary of State Department should have the main responsibility for ceremonial arrangements and the drawing up of a detailed programme. The second meeting of the Interdepartmental Committee was held on October 16; the third on October 23; the fourth on October 28 (at which three CNR officials were present); the fifth on November 6 (at which two officer of the US Embassy were present); and the sixth meeting on December 1, 1953.

- (c) Programme (see attachment "A", Arrangements, issued by the Department of the Secretary of State, pp 9-20)

November 13 (Friday)

- 11:30 am Arrival at Ottawa Station
- 11:40 am Royal Salute followed by Inspection of the Guard of Honour on Confederation Place
- 11:50 am Laying of ~~Wreath~~ on National War Memorial
- 12:00 noon Departure for Government House with a motorcade of six cars plus two RCMP cars and a special press car.
- 1:00 pm Private luncheon with Governor General at Government House
- 4:00 pm Following an afternoon with no official engagements, the President and Mrs. Eisenhower each plant a tree in Government House grounds.
- 8:00 pm Dinner at Government House
- 10:00 pm Reception at Government House

November 14 (Saturday)

- 10:45 am On arrival at Peace Tower of Parliament Buildings the President is met by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- 11:00 am President address<sup>es</sup> Members of the Senate and House of Commons in House of Commons Chamber. (See attachment "D" DEA Press Release of November 14, 1953).
- 11:45 President meets members of the Cabinet
- 1:30 Prime Minister and Mme St. Laurent entertain at luncheon at 24 Sussex Drive
- Afternoon President and Mrs. Eisenhower move to US Embassy residence (See p. 19 of attachment "A").
- 8:00 pm Presidential dinner at US Embassy residence in honour of the Governor General
- 10:00 pm Reception at US Embassy Residence

- November 15 (Sunday) No official engagements. Inspection of Guard of Honour at departure by train.

(d) Press Arrangements

At its first meeting, the Interdepartmental Committee (See (b) above) set up a Press Arrangements sub-committee under Mr. Freifeld's chairmanship. The sub-committee not only assembled and sent to Washington information kits for all newsmen, but at the same time (November 10) sent to the Canadian Embassy in Washington 75 copies of the official Arrangements booklet (See attachment "A") together with 75 copies of booklet Public Information Arrangements (See attachment "B"). Seventy of these 75 copies were for transmission by the Embassy to Mr. James C. Hagerty, the President's press secretary.

the

A joint communiqué (See attachment marked "C") was issued at the close of the Presidential visit. (The first draft of this Communiqué emanated from State Department on October 29, 1953 - see telegram of that date from Canadian Embassy, Washington on file 11912-A-40)

The President's press secretary, Mr. Hagerty, was informed on November 6 that a reception and buffet would be offered the visiting press by the Canadian Parliamentary Press Gallery in the Parliamentary Committee Room of the House of Commons at 6.00 pm on November 13. (The SSEA had authorized an expenditure of up to \$700 for the purpose of extending press hospitality - the amount actually expended was much less than the sum authorized) The Chief of the Parliamentary Press Gallery undertook to make all arrangements in conjunction with the President of the Gallery and Mr. Freifeld.

(e) Sources:

Department of External Affairs Annual Report 1953

DEA Monthly Bulletin December 1953

DEA files 11912-A-40; 11912-40

Hansard (Session 1953-54 Vol I) p 34 November 16, 1953.

XI. VISIT OF PRESIDENT EISENHOWER TO OTTAWA - JULY 8-11, 1958

Introduction

On May 2, 1958, the Office of the Prime Minister announced that President and Mrs. Eisenhower had accepted an invitation to make an informal visit to Ottawa from July 8-11, 1958, accompanied by Secretary of State and Mrs. Dulles. This was the President's second official visit to Ottawa and according to an article in the August 1958 issue of External Affairs Monthly Bulletin (see attachment "A"), the President "has been abroad on a few occasions in order to attend international conferences [but] he has not set foot outside the United States since assuming office to pay an official visit, except to Canada. He has made two such visits during his five and a half years of office. By so doing, he has underlined in a particularly gratifying way, the special relationship that exists between his country and Canada".

(a) Presidential Party

As well as including Secretary of State and Mrs. Dulles, the party comprised twelve members of the President's personal staff, about 20 members of the US Secret Service and there were 14 members of the crew of the President's plane. The US Embassy informed the Department of the names of the people accompanying the President, but this list is not on file. Neither do the files contain a copy of the final printed programme issued by the Government Hospitality Committee.

(b) Procedures

The Government Hospitality Committee (GHC) was given the responsibility by the Prime Minister for planning the arrangements for this visit. Two sub-committees of the GHC were established - (1) the Programme sub-committee with Mr. Archibald Day as Chairman and (2) the Publicity Arrangements sub-committee with Mr. Paul Malone as Chairman. The former sub-committee had four meetings (May 8, June 25, July 5 and a de-briefing session on July 15). Invited to this sub-committee's meetings were representatives from: Government Hospitality Committee, Departments of Public Works, National Defence, Secretary of State, Veterans Affairs and External Affairs, Government House, NFB, CBC, RCMP, Ottawa City Police, Prime Minister's Office, City of Hull, City of Ottawa, RCAF Station Uplands and US Embassy.

The Prime Minister after consulting Cabinet indicated that the following questions (insofar as this was consistent with limitations imposed by the President's health) should be discussed with the President or Mr. Dulles: Trade Problems; Link Between Trade and Canada's Defence Effort; Sovereignty Questions in Northern Canada; General US-Canada Relations; Proposal for a Joint Ministerial Committee on Defence Matters. The Department informed the Departments of Finance, Defence, Trade and Commerce, Agriculture, and the Bank of Canada and Secretary to the Cabinet (with a copy for information to Prime Minister's Office) of the Prime Minister's wishes concerning subjects to be discussed.

The USSEA, at the request of American Division, agreed that a small departmental committee be set up to co-ordinate preparation of background papers on some or all of the following topics (1) Examination of Canada-US Relations; (2) Examination of Particular Points of Irritation including: seaward territorial limits; wheat marketing; minerals; interchange and export of energy including oil, natural gas, hydroelectric power; tariff objectives; control of policy of foreign-owned corporations; defence procurement and construction; (3) Examination of Matters of General World Concern. A copy of the Briefing Book prepared for this visit of President Eisenhower is appended (see attachment "B").

Following discussions between USSEA and the US Ambassador in Ottawa, it was agreed that the following types of talks could take place during the Presidential visit:

- (1) President and the Prime Minister accompanied by Mr. Dulles and Mr. Smith as well as the two respective Ambassadors. (As the programme finally worked out, it seems that two such meetings of approximately one hour's length each were held);
- (2) President to attend a meeting of the Cabinet for about half an hour;
- (3) Secretary of State Dulles and SSEA Mr. Smith to meet for 2 hours in the afternoon of July 10. (Also attending were Ministers of Public Works, Finance, National Defence, Trade and Commerce, Northern Affairs and Natural Resources, Agriculture and Defence Production. In attendance were the two respective Ambassadors and several senior US and Canadian officials.) Subjects to be discussed were defence and defence production and the Columbia River and Alaska Problems (see attachments "C-1" and "C-2" which are the minutes of the July 10 discussions);
- (4) Secretary of State Dulles and SSEA Mr. Smith to meet for 2 hours in the afternoon of July 9 to discuss matters of general world concern. (During the first hour of this meeting the USSEA and the Assistant USSEAs were present; for the second hour the above-noted persons were joined by the heads of a number of political and functional divisions of the Department.)

The usual letters requesting all courtesies for the presidential party were sent by the Department to the Collector of Customs, and the Director of Immigration.

The Programme sub-committee of the GHC held a post mortem on July 15, 1958, noting the shortcomings of its operations during the presidential visit. The minutes of this July 15 meeting are appended (see attachment "D").

Another scrap of information unearthed from file 11562-105-40 was that the Governor General presented a 7" high Eskimo carving in stone to President Eisenhower.

- (c) Programme (see attachment "E", a Press Release dated July 26, 1958; since there is no copy on file of the final printed programme put out by the Government Hospitality Committee, any details in addition to those noted in the July 26 Press Release have been gleaned from memoranda on DEA files)

July 8 (Tuesday)

- 11:00 a.m. Arrival at RCAF Station, Uplands, and met by the Governor General and Prime Minister and Mrs. Diefenbaker; Royal Salute; Inspection of the Guard of Honour. Presentation of VIPs to the President and Mrs. Eisenhower and to Mr. and Mrs. Dulles by the Governor General. Drive in a motorcade from Uplands to Rideau Hall where the main guests remain overnight as guests of the Governor General.
- 1:00 p.m. Private luncheon with the Governor General
- 4:00/5:00 p.m. President Eisenhower and Mr. Dulles confer with Prime Minister Diefenbaker and the SSEA at the Prime Minister's Residence. The two respective Ambassadors were also in attendance.
- 8:00 p.m. Official Dinner for President and Mrs. Eisenhower given by the Governor General at Rideau Hall



July 9 (Wednesday)

- 9:20 a.m. President places a wreath at the National War Memorial
- 10:00 a.m. President addresses Members of the Senate and of the House of Commons in the Commons Chamber. (This ceremony as well as being carried by CBC Radio is also carried by CBC television)
- 1:00 p.m. Luncheon for the President given by Prime Minister Diefenbaker at the Country Club (Mrs. Eisenhower was guest of honour at a luncheon given by Mrs. Diefenbaker at the Prime Minister's Residence)
- afternoon No official engagements
- 6:00-7:30 pm Reception by the USA Ambassador at his residence
- 8:00 p.m. President dines privately with the US Ambassador at his residence

July 10 (Thursday)

- 9:00 a.m. President and Mrs. Eisenhower and Mr. and Mrs. Dulles visit the USA Chancery to meet the staff
- 10:15 a.m. President Eisenhower and Mr. Dulles confer with Prime Minister Diefenbaker and the SSEA in East Block
- 11:15 a.m. President meets Cabinet for half an hour
- 1:00 p.m. Private lunch at residence of US Ambassador
- afternoon No official engagements
- 8:00 p.m. Dinner at Residence of US Ambassador in honour of the Governor General

July 11 (Friday)

- 10:45 a.m. Departure by air from RCAF, Uplands, after farewells at the airport from Governor General, Prime Minister Diefenbaker and others; and a Royal Salute and inspection of the Guard of Honour

(d) Publicity Arrangements

The Publicity Arrangements sub-committee of the GHC had Mr. Paul Malone as its Chairman. The sub-committee's meetings were attended by representatives of the CBC, Canadian Government Travel Bureau, Citizenship and Immigration, Government House, Queen's Printer, NFB, DND, RCMP, Treasury Board, Secretary of State as well as DEA. At its first meeting on May 22, the sub-committee's agenda included the following items: Organization (working groups, etc.); Discussion of programme; Accreditations; Press Room; Press Conferences; Press Briefings; Press Reception; Coverage of Address to Parliament by Radio and TV; and Press Accommodation. As the date of the presidential visit grew closer, the sub-committee set up a small Executive Group which met more frequently.

Perhaps the first job undertaken by this sub-committee was to have assembled 100 information kits for the visiting journalists which were forwarded to Washington for distribution well before the Presidential Party left there on July 8. This sub-committee also prepared a separate Public Information Handbook (see attachment "F") copies of which were sent to Washington before the presidential party left there.)

The Chairman of the GHC obtained, on behalf of the Publicity Arrangements sub-committee, the Prime Minister's approval for a press room to be set up in Centre Block; for a grant of not more than \$1,000. for hospitality to be made available to the Press Gallery; for arrangements to be made to televise and broadcast President Eisenhower's address to the joint session of Parliament.

The USA Ambassador in Ottawa informed Canadian officials of the President's dislike of communiqués. There was agreement between US and Canadian officials that the technique of announcements and press briefings was more satisfactory. Therefore it was agreed, in order "to satisfy the insatiable appetite of newspapermen for material on which to write their despatches" that Mr. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President, and Mr. Nelson, Press Secretary to the Prime Minister, would hold press briefing sessions at 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. each day of the Presidential visit in Room 368 of the Senate. Three joint press statements were issued at these press briefing sessions on Safeguards Against Surprise Attack, on Export Policies and on Canada-U.S. Committee on Joint Defence (for texts see attachment "A").

The Prime Minister as well as making a statement in the House of Commons on July 7 on topics to be discussed with the President, gave a further statement in the House on July 11 on the discussions that were held with the President and Secretary of State Dulles.

Mr. Malone's report dated August 19, 1958, to the GHC (see attachment "G") is his review of the work performed by the Publicity Arrangements sub-committee.

(e) Results

See attachment "A" for the texts of the three Joint Statements. See also attachment "H" which is a memorandum dated July 25, 1958, from American Division through the USSEA to the SSEA on Results of Visit of President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles.

(f) Sources

1958 Annual Report of the Department of External Affairs  
External Affairs Monthly Bulletin, August 1958  
Hansard July 7, 1958; July 9, 1958 pp.2081-87, 2089, 2139-2142;  
July 11, 1958  
Department of External Affairs files 1415-E-40; 11562-105-A-40;  
and 11562-105-40.

XII. PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S VISIT TO OTTAWA, MAY 16-18, 1961

Introduction

As President Kennedy remarked on arrival at Uplands airport with Mrs. Kennedy on May 16 it was fitting that his first trip since assuming the presidency should be to "the oldest of our neighbours and among the closest of our friends".

(a) Presidential Party

*Why not get in the US Embassy*

Since no printed final programme as issued by the Department of the Secretary of State is on any DEA file, it is not possible to enumerate accurately the members of the Presidential party who accompanied him on his plane. It may have numbered 25 people and definitely included Messrs. O'Donnell, Pierre Salinger, Col. McHugh, Walt Rostow, W. J. Hartigan, Letitia Baldrige, Ambassador Biddle Duke, Ivan White, and Milton Rewinkel. There were a considerable number (exact figure unknown) of Secret Service men on the plane. Nearly 100 USA press, radio, TV and film personnel arrived in Ottawa on a press plane about two hours before the President's plane landed at Uplands.

(b) Procedures

The Government Hospitality Committee (GHC) was in charge of the arrangements for the visit and its chairman, the Department's Chief of Protocol, Mr. H. F. Davis, established two sub-committees of the GHC. One was the Programme sub-committee chaired by DEA's Chief of Protocol, and the other was the Publicity Arrangements sub-committee chaired by DEA's Press Officer. The GHC's first meeting (see attached Minutes marked "A") was held on April 18. Later meetings were on April 20, 24 and 27. On April 25 two joint meetings were held with the US Group Planning the Visit (see attached Minutes marked "A-1" and "A-2") *117?*

At this April 25 joint meeting, the US Secret Service were advised, with the Prime Minister's approval, that they could not carry arms either in the House of Commons Chamber, in the House of Commons Gallery or anywhere within the precincts of Parliament. Concerning their request to use a "bubble car" for the President except when he was accompanied by the Governor General or the Prime Minister, they were informed (after seeking the Prime Minister's approval) that there was no objection provided no guns were sticking out.

The Prime Minister's Office requested the Department for briefing background notes for the PM's use at confidential conversations with the President; notes for the PM's 7-8 minute speech of introduction when presenting the President on May 17 to Parliament; notes for after-lunch and after-dinner remarks on May 16 and 17; and notes for a short welcoming statement at the arrival ceremony on May 16.

*Dir Gen but we should know what*

Concerning the confidential briefing book, on April 20 USA Division submitted to the USSEA, at his request, a list of possible topics, for eventual approval by the PM. A memorandum dated April 28 (see attachment "B") notified ten divisions about the requirement for submitting briefing papers not later than May 4. All briefs seem to have been received by May 11; they were cleared by USSEA on May 12 and passed to the Prime Minister's Office. A copy of the Briefing Book is attachment "C". On May 12 the Prime Minister approved a short list of topics, passed informally to State Department on May 13, as likely to figure prominently in talks with the President. The word from the US Embassy was that President Kennedy had no definite list of subjects to discuss. When these confidential discussions actually took place (May 17 for more than two hours) Messrs. Heeney, R. B. Bryce and Basil Robinson accompanied Prime Minister Diefenbaker, and Messrs. Rostow, Livingstone Merchant and Ivan White accompanied the President. A 26-page Canadian Eyes Only record of these discussions is held in FAH and is also on file 12850-X-3-1-40. Also, Canadian Eyes Only telegram PM-138 of May 18, 1961, summarizes the main points of the Prime Minister's May 16 and May 17 discussions with the President (see attachment "H").

- (c) Programme (See Condensed programmes for President and Mrs. Kennedy's visit marked "D". No final printed programme <sup>OR THE CMC</sup> as issued by the Department of the Secretary of State, can be found in DEA's files)

The earliest tentative programme, including dates, resulted from conversations between a member of the Prime Minister's Office, Mr. Basil Robinson, and officials of the US Embassy. These conversations continued until about mid-April when the programme began to come into shape and meet the wishes of the principals (including the Governor General).

The following additional details can be added to the attached condensed programme:

- (i) Both the Governor General and the Prime Minister made welcoming remarks at the Airport on May 16 and the President replied; there was a Royal Salute by the RCAF guard of honour and band, together with a 21-gun salute. The whole airport ceremony lasted about 35 minutes.
- (ii) President and Mrs. Kennedy were guests at Government House for the duration of their visit, i.e., they did not move out to the US Residence after staying one night at Rideau Hall. Each planted a red oak tree to commemorate their visit, in the grounds of Government House soon after their arrival there.

(iii) (For the text of the remarks made by Prime Minister Diefenbaker when presenting the President to Parliament on May 17 see attachment "E"). After the President spoke for 20-25 minutes, he was thanked by the Speakers of both Houses. This joint session of Parliament was recorded by TV as well as radio.

(d) Press Arrangements

Information Kits, Special Press Guidance Booklets and Official Programmes were sent to Washington on May 12 for distribution to correspondents, etc. A further detailed briefing was given to the press and photographers upon arrival at Uplands Airport two hours before the presidential plane.

On May 15 an announcement was made advising of Opportunities for the Public to View the Proceedings of the Visit to Ottawa of President and Mrs. Kennedy.

A joint press briefing session took place in the Parliament Buildings on May 17. Participants for Canada - Mr. Farquaharson (Information Officer, Canadian Embassy, Washington), Mr. Newton (DEA's Press Officer) and Mr. R. B. Bryce of the Privy Council; for USA - Mr. Pierre Salinger (White House Press Secretary) and Mr. Ivan White (Deputy Assistant Secretary of State).

A Joint Communiqué dated May 18, was issued at the conclusion of the visit (see attachment "F"). In order to amplify the Joint Communiqué the Prime Minister reported to the House on May 19 (see attachment "G") indicating in general terms some of the matters discussed with President Kennedy.

A post mortem memorandum dated June 26, 1961, (attachment "I") reviews the work of the Publicity and Press Arrangements sub-committee and mentions what might be done differently for future visits.

A few other matters are worthy of mention:

*Speaker?*  
The Prime Minister approved radio and TV coverage for the May 17 address to Parliament. He also concurred in the setting up of a press room on the Senate side of the Centre Block as well as in a grant (not exceeding \$1000) being made to the Press Gallery to enable a reception and buffet supper to be offered in the Railway Committee Room to visiting press, radio, TV and film personnel. Treasury Board approval was received for an expenditure (not to exceed \$700) to cover costs of (i) services (telephones, typewriters, stationery) in the Press Room; (ii) production in English and French of a Special Press Guidance Booklet; and (iii) \$20.00 per diem allowance and travelling expenses for one additional staff from Montreal (an ex-NFB employee).

(e) Sources

DEA Monthly Bulletin, June 1961

Hansard (Session 1960-1 Vol. V) May 17, 1961, pp. 4961-69 and May 19, 1961 pp. 5039-41

DEA files 1415-N-40; 12850-X3-40; 12850-X3-1-40

XIII PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S VISIT TO VANCOUVER, SEPTEMBER 16, 1964

President Johnson made his first official visit to a foreign country since assuming the Presidency when he visited British Columbia. He arrived by plane in Vancouver on September 16, 1964 to meet the Prime Minister of Canada and Premier of British Columbia for the ratification of the agreement concerning the development of the Columbia River basin.

Source: Department of External Affairs Annual Report 1964

XIV

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S VISIT TO  
NEW BRUNSWICK, AUGUST 21, 1966

On August 21, 1966 President Lyndon B. Johnson accompanied by Mrs. Johnson joined the Prime Minister of Canada and Mrs. Pearson at Campobello Island, New Brunswick where the President and the Prime Minister laid the cornerstone of the Visitors' Centre in the Roosevelt - Campobello International Park.

Source: Department of External Affairs Annual Report 1966



XV

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S VISIT TO EXPO '67  
AND HARRINGTON LAKE MAY 25, 1967

There was disturbing uncertainty until practically the very date of the visit, not only in Ottawa but also in the White House as to whether President Johnson would attend the official ceremonies at EXPO '67 marking the start of the US National Day at EXPO. After arrival at Dorval by plane, a flight by helicopter to EXPO, the President was welcomed at ceremonies at EXPO's Place des Nations. Following a visit to the United States Pavilion, the President flew by helicopter to Mr. Pearson's summer residence at Harrington Lake for lunch. Brief discussions were held on the Middle East and Vietnam situations.

Before his departure from Uplands Airport in late afternoon, there was a joint briefing of the press by the President and the Prime Minister. The latter said "We covered a lot of ground. From my point of view the discussions were very helpful indeed..."

Sources: DEA Monthly Bulletin July 1967  
DEA Annual Report, 1967  
DEA file 20 USA-9


XVI. PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT TO MONTREAL AND  
ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY, JUNE 27, 1969

Joint ceremonies took place on June 27, 1969, participated in by President Nixon and Prime Minister Trudeau to mark the tenth anniversary of the St. Lawrence Seaway. The celebrations began when the official parties met at the Canadian-USA border on the Moses-Saunders Power Dam, the site where ten years before Queen Elizabeth and Mr. Nixon, then Vice President, had dedicated the 32-turbine dam. After a 40-minute ceremony at Massena, N.Y. the official parties flew by helicopter to participate in the Canadian ceremony at Ile Sainte Helene, Montreal. This was Mr. Nixon's first visit to Canada since assuming the office of President. After short speeches by both US and Canadian leaders, the President and Prime Minister concluded the ceremony by unveiling and dedicating a plaque commemorating the Seaway's tenth anniversary.

Sources

DEA Annual Report, 1969  
DEA External Affairs Monthly Bulletin, August 1969  
DEA Files 25-5-3; 22-15-5

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