## PRESS RELEASE

## department of external affairs

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FOR RELEASE IN AFTERNOON PAPERS OF MEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1953.

Simultaneous announcements were made today in Ottaw and Hashington of the satisfactory conclusion of negotiations which have been under way for the past year by the Canadian and United States Governments of plans for the construction by the United States Army Corps of Engineers of an 8-inch petroleum products pipeline from Haines; near Skagway, in Alaska, through northwestern British Columbia and Yukon Territory to Fairbanks, Alaska.

The pipeline will play an important part in meeting the military requirements for an assured supply of petroleum products for forces based in Slaska. In addition to meeting the United States military needs the pipeline will also be available to fill Canadian military requirements in the Northmest. When the line is not required for military purposes civilion needs will be satisfied. The total cost of the project is estimated at about $\$ 40$ million of which about $\$ 12$ million will be spent on the Canadian section.

The pipeline will follon the route of the "Haines Cut-Off"--the military road which runs from Haines to Haines Junction, a point on the Alaska Hieghray. From there it will follow the Alaska Highway to Fairbanks. The length of the pipeline in Canadian territory is 284 miles.
frrangements for the right-of-ray for the Canadian section of the pipeline are being made by the Canadian Government. Title to the right-of-may will remain with the Province of British Columbia and with Canada. The British Columbia Government is co-operating in the project by making available the Provincial Crom lands involved. It is contemplated that the United States will be given an easenent for the right-of-way for a minimum of 20 years, after mich the arrangement nay be reviewed by either country if desired.


