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TABLE OF CONTENTS(A) INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS

1. Agreement between Canada and the U.S.S.R. for an Exchange of Consular representatives, statement by Prime Minister, February 5, 1942.
2. Lease-Lend Agreement signed by Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States in Washington, February 24, 1942, press Statement February 24, 1942.
3. Statement of Prime Minister regarding powers given to Minister of Justice with reference to "Protected Areas", February 25, 1942.
4. Communication with International Red Cross Committee at Geneva, press statement of February 26, 1942.
5. Establishment of a Canadian Branch of the British Food Mission in North America, press Statement of February 27, 1942.

(B) COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES IN CANADA(C) CHANGES IN THE CANADIAN EXTERNAL SERVICE(D) RECENT PUBLICATIONS



(A) INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS1. Agreement between Canada and the U.S.S.R. for an Exchange of Consular representatives, statement by Prime Minister, February 5, 1942.

A few days ago the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart (Mr. Coldwell) asked the following question:

1. What decision has the government reached regarding the recognition of our present ally the U.S.S.R.?
2. If recognition has been decided upon, will the government exchange representatives with the Soviet Union?

I explained the reasons at the time why it was not possible to give an immediate answer to the question. I am now in a position to give the house the following information:

De facto recognition of the U.S.S.R. was accorded by the United Kingdom government following the signature of a trade agreement at London on March 16, 1921. Canada adhered to this agreement on July 3, 1922, from which date extends Canada's de facto recognition of the U.S.S.R.

On February 1, 1924, the United Kingdom government granted de jure recognition to the U.S.S.R., while formal recognition by Canada may be dated from March 24, 1924, at which time a communication from the Canadian government was forwarded to the government of the U.S.S.R., stating that Canada was prepared to recognize the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

Up to the present time, therefore, the Canadian government has maintained diplomatic and commercial relations with Russia in exactly the same way as is done with many other countries with whom direct diplomatic relations have not yet been established, that is, through the British diplomatic and consular services.

In reply to the second part of this question I would like to inform the house that an agreement was signed in London to-day at 3 p.m. London time between the government of Canada and the government of the U.S.S.R., providing for the exchange of consular representatives between the two countries. The Canadian High Commissioner in London, the Right Hon. Vincent Massey, signed on behalf of Canada, and the Russian ambassador, M. Maisky, signed on behalf of the U.S.S.R.

I may say that it is the belief of the government that the establishment of direct relations, pursuant to this agreement, will greatly facilitate the solution of common problems arising out of the war efforts of our two countries.



2. Lease-lend Agreement signed by Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States in Washington, February 24, 1942. text of press statement issued at Ottawa, February 24, 1942.

The Lease-Lend Agreement, signed today in Washington on behalf of the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States, was welcomed by the Prime Minister. This Agreement between the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States on the objectives of international economic policy marks a long step forward in realizing the goal set by the United Nations in their acceptance of the Atlantic Charter. Canada will be ready to play its full part in the joint international efforts envisaged by the Agreement to expand the production, employment, exchange and consumption of goods, and to cooperate in the progressive removal of trade barriers which stand in the way of these objectives.

3. Statement of Prime Minister regarding powers given to Minister of Justice with reference to "Protected Areas", February 25, 1942.

The Prime Minister announced on February 25 that power had been given the Minister of Justice to exclude any or all persons, regardless of their citizenship, from "protected areas" as defined under the Defence of Canada Regulations. The Order-in-Council, which amends Regulation 4 of the Defence of Canada Regulations, will be tabled today. The new Regulation, which corresponds very closely to the Proclamation issued by the President of the United States on Friday, is effective at once.

Under the amended Order, the Minister of Justice may require any or all persons, whether they are British subjects or not, to leave a protected area. He is further authorized to impose such restrictions as he may specify in respect of their employment, business, movements or places of residence. He can prohibit or restrict the possession or use by any or all persons in the protected area of any specified articles and can require the delivery of such articles to the R.C.M.P. In short, the Defence of Canada Regulations as now amended give the Minister of Justice full power to take any required security measure within the Protected Area with regard to any person within that area.

The protected area in British Columbia in which the new order will apply has been defined by the Minister of National Defence as the coastal belt between the Cascade Mountains and the sea including all the islands off the coast of British Columbia.

It is the policy of the Government to use the powers of this order to take all necessary security measures to safeguard the defences of the Pacific Coast of Canada.

Lease-Lend Agreement signed by Government of the United Kingdom and the United States in Washington, February 22, 1942  
Text of press statement issued at Ottawa, February 24, 1942

The Lease-Lend Agreement, signed today in Washington on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom and the United States, was welcomed by the Prime Minister. This Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the United States on the objectives of international economic policy marks a long step toward realizing the goal set by the United Nations in their acceptance of the Atlantic Charter. Canada will be ready to play its full part in the joint international efforts envisaged by the Agreement to expand the production, employment, exchange and consumption of goods, and to cooperate in the progressive removal of trade barriers which stand in the way of these objectives.

Statement of Prime Minister regarding powers given to Minister of Justice with reference to "Protected Areas", February 23, 1942.

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Under the amended Order, the Minister of Justice may require any or all persons, whether they are British subjects or not, to leave a protected area. He is further authorized to impose such restrictions as he may deem fit in respect of their employment, business, movement or places of residence. He can prohibit or restrict the possession or use by any or all persons in the protected area of any specified articles and can require the delivery of such articles to the C.M.C. in charge. The Defence of Canada Regulations as now amended give the Minister of Justice full power to take any measures necessary to ensure within the "protected areas" with regard to any person within that area.

The "protected areas" in British Columbia in which the new Order will apply has been defined by the Minister of National Defence as the coastal belt between the Canada-Norway and the sea including all the islands off the coast of British Columbia.

It is the policy of the Government to use the powers of this Order to take all necessary security measures to safeguard the defence of the Pacific Coast of Canada.



4. Communication with International Red Cross Committee at Geneva, press statement of February 26, 1942.

Word has been received from the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva, Switzerland, that it is possible for them to transmit some urgent messages (not exceeding twenty-five words in length) by telegram at a cost of approximately \$20 per message. This charge would cover also the cost of the reply from Tokyo to Geneva.

The Department of External Affairs has sent an urgent cable to Geneva asking the Committee whether this service is available for communications to Hong Kong and Manila and whether it may be used for messages to prisoners of war in Japanese hands.

The Department of External Affairs has been in constant communication with the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva and with the Argentine Embassy at Tokyo, in an effort to secure information about prisoners of war at Hong Kong but up to the present no means of communication with persons in Hong Kong has been established. The Argentine Embassy at Tokyo has been doing everything possible to establish communication with Hong Kong and it was through the Argentine Government that the figures of Canadians taken prisoner at Hong Kong, which were given out yesterday by the Minister of National Defence, Colonel Ralston, were received.

5. Establishment of a Canadian Branch of the British Food Mission in North America, press statement of February 27, 1942.

The following announcement was issued in London today by the United Kingdom Ministry of Food:

Negotiations by the United Kingdom Ministry of Food for the procurement of food supplies for the United Kingdom and other British countries from the North American continent have hitherto been conducted directly from the United Kingdom in the case of Canadian supplies, and through the agency of the British Food Mission to the U.S.A. in the case of U.S.A. supplies.

It has been found desirable to co-ordinate the administrative arrangements for the procurement of food supplies for both Canada and the U.S.A. The Minister of Food has accordingly approved the extension to Canada of the functions and duties of the British Food Mission to the United States of America and the reconstitution of the Mission as "The British Food Mission in North America."

Lord Woolton has appointed Mr. G.H.S. Pinsent, C.M.G., Assistant Secretary, H.M. Treasury, until recently Financial Adviser in the British Embassy, Washington, to be a Member of the British Food Mission in North America, and Mr. Pinsent will have charge of the Mission's Canadian business, under the general direction of the Hon. R.H. Brand, the Head of the Mission.

The Canadian Headquarters of the British Food Mission in North America have been established at Ottawa.



(B)

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES IN CANADA1. Appointment of Ministers to Canada from Norway, Poland and Yugoslavia, Statement by Prime Minister, February 9, 1942

Perhaps I might say a word with respect to legations to be opened shortly in Ottawa. I notice in the press of this morning reference to Norway opening a legation in the city. I might say that there have been requests from Norway and from Poland and Yugoslavia to have legations established in Ottawa. Requests have been received from other countries, but I mention these three in particular. Careful consideration has been given to the requests, and the government has decided to accept them. We are pleased to have in the capital of Canada diplomatic representatives of these countries which have been playing such heroic parts in the present great world struggle.

The first legation to be opened will be that of Norway. The Norwegian minister will be Mr. Daniel Steen who has been consul general of Norway in Canada for many years. The first Polish minister will be Mr. Victor Podoski, who came to this country as consul general of Poland at the outbreak of the war. Both these gentlemen, now raised to the rank of minister plenipotentiary in the service of their respective countries, are held in high regard and esteem by the Canadian government and all those who have had the pleasure of meeting them. I may add that the first minister of Yugoslavia to Canada will be Doctor Isidor Cankar, who has had a distinguished career in the diplomatic service of his country and is at present Yugoslav minister to the Argentine republic.

Perhaps I should mention also that Greece has indicated a desire to have a minister resident at Ottawa and that request is being considered at the present time. With respect to the reciprocal appointments of ministers to other countries, it is understood that the matter of reciprocation will stand over until the end of the war.

2. Presentation of Letter of Credence by Dr. Liu Shih Shun, Minister of China, February 26, 1942.

Dr. Liu Shih Shun, the first diplomatic representative in Canada of China, this morning presented to His Excellency the Governor General at Government House the Letter of Credence by which the President of the National Government of the Republic of China accredits him as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Canada.

Dr. Liu was introduced to the Governor General by the Under Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Norman Robertson.

The new Minister presented to His Excellency the Governor General the members of his staff:

Mr. Li Chao, Counsellor  
 Mr. Houang Ke-Louen, Second Secretary  
 Mr. Liu Te-yen, Attache  
 Mr. Chan Chung-yuan, Attache  
 Mr. Mao Yun-an, Attache



In addition, Mr. Lee Ping-jui, First Secretary, and Miss Lucy Tou, Attache, will also join the staff of the Mission at an early date.

Prior to his present appointment Dr. Liu was Director of the European Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China.

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Address delivered by the Chinese Minister, Dr. Liu Shih Shun, when presenting Letter of Credence to the Governor General, at Government House, February 26, 1942.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to present to your Excellency the Letters which accredit me as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of China to His Britannic Majesty in respect of the Dominion of Canada. In doing so, I wish to take the opportunity to request you to convey to His Majesty the cordial greetings of His Excellency the Chairman of the National Government of the Republic of China as well as his best wishes for His Majesty's health and for the welfare and prosperity of Canada and the Canadian people.

It is well-known that the relations between China and Canada have long been of the happiest and most friendly kind. The decision to exchange diplomatic missions has arisen from their mutual desire to develop and promote that co-operation between them which is already in evidence. That the decision is well-taken and timely is clearly manifested by the trend of world events.

To-day, both in Europe and in Asia, a war of stupendous magnitude is raging over land and sea. All the law-abiding and freedom-loving peoples of the world are engaged in a bitter struggle against the onslaught of the cohorts of barbarism and despotism. The combined forces of the democratic front are forging ahead with redoubled energy and are determined to carry on the fight until their common victory is achieved.

Throughout this struggle, the vitality, resourcefulness and undaunted courage of the Canadians have aroused the profound sympathy and admiration of the Chinese people. Now that the two nations are fighting shoulder to shoulder in defence of freedom, justice and civilization, we are confident that their community of interest and comradeship in arms are destined to form a firm foundation for an ever-increasing and lasting friendship.

I fully sense the honour my Government has done me by entrusting me with this important mission; and, with a view to its fulfilment, I bespeak Your Excellency's kindly support.

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Reply of His Excellency the Governor General  
to the Minister of China.

February 26, 1942.

Mr. Minister:

It affords me great pleasure to receive in the name of His Majesty The King, the Letter of Credence by which the President of the National Government of the Republic of China accredits you as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Canada, and I extend to you, as the first diplomatic representative of China in Canada, a very warm welcome.

I beg you to convey to His Excellency the Chairman of the National Government of the Republic of China my sincere thanks for His Excellency's cordial greetings and best wishes both for the health of His Majesty The King and for the welfare and prosperity of Canada and of the Canadian people. These high sentiments are reciprocated in full measure to His Excellency and to the Chinese people by me and by the Government and people of Canada.

The establishment in Canada of a diplomatic mission from China is welcomed with the utmost cordiality and will serve further to develop and promote the happy and friendly relations which have for so long existed between our two countries.

The courageous struggle which the people of China with undaunted spirit have waged for so many years against the invasion of their native land has aroused the sympathy and admiration of the Canadian people. Canada too has been engaged in a struggle against aggressor nations. Today the people of Canada and the people of China are both confronted by the same enemies against whom they will continue as comrades in arms to share the defence of Freedom and Justice until victory has been achieved. Our efforts to defeat our ruthless foes are uniting us in an ever close association and will, I know, form the basis for a wider and deeper friendship.

In the discharge of the duties of your important mission you may rely upon my wholehearted co-operation.





3. Visit to Ottawa of Dr. Eelco van Kleffens, Foreign Minister of the Netherlands.

Dr. Van Kleffens visited Ottawa on February 26, for the purpose of paying his respects to H.R.H. Princess Juliana of the Netherlands.

Dr. van Kleffens was received by the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, during his visit to the Capital.

4. Visit to Ottawa of Dr. T.V. Soong, Minister of Foreign Affairs of China.

Dr. T.V. Soong, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China, accompanied by Madame Soong and by members of the staff of the Chinese Embassy in Washington paid a brief visit to Ottawa on February 28 and March 1, 1942.

Dr. and Madame Soong, and the members of their party were the guests of the Governor General and Princess Alice at luncheon at Government House. Dr. and Madame Soong were later received by the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, and in the evening were, with members of their party, the guests of the Hon. C.D. Howe, M.P., Minister of Munitions and Supply, and Mrs. Howe, at a dinner at the Country Club.

5. Visit to Ottawa of Count Edward Raczynski, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, and Polish Ambassador in London.

Count Edward Raczynski, Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Ottawa on Sunday, March 1, accompanied by Count Michael Potulicki, Legal Adviser of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On Monday morning, Count Raczynski was received by the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, and later was the guest of His Excellency the Governor General and H.R.H. Princess Alice, at luncheon at Government House.

Count Raczynski left Ottawa on Monday afternoon to return to Washington.



(c) CHANGES IN THE CANADIAN EXTERNAL SERVICE

1. The Canadian Government has under consideration the appointment of a Canadian diplomatic officer to the staff of the British Legation in Berne to deal with Canadian prisoners of war, civilian internee questions, and protection of Canadian interests and personnel in enemy and enemy occupied countries, as well as to keep in close touch with the International Red Cross. It is expected that an announcement to this effect will shortly be made.



(D) RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Re: Treaty Series Publications for 1940, 1941 and 1942.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series are now available in final form:

1940 No. 15.

Exchange of Notes between Canada and the U.S.A. recording Canada's permission for United States of America coast guard vessels on the Great Lakes to enter Canadian territorial waters in certain circumstances. (English and French).

1941 No. 13.

Exchange of Notes between Canada and Ecuador (August 26, 1941) constituting a commercial modus vivendi. (English and French).

1941 No. 15.

Exchange of Notes (Oct. 27 and Nov. 27, 1941) between Canada and the United States of America relating to further utilization of water for power purposes at Niagara Falls. (English and French).

1941 No. 16.

Trade Agreement between Canada and Chile signed at Santiago-de-Chile September 10, 1941. (English and French).

1941 No. 17.

Trade Agreement between Canada and the Argentine Republic signed at Buenos Aires October 2, 1941. (English and French).

1941 No. 18.

Trade Agreement between Canada and Brazil signed at Rio de Janeiro October 17, 1941. (English and French).

1942 No. 1.

Declaration by the United Nations made at Washington on January 1st, 1942, together with related documents. (French only).

