1 November 1945

Secretary Patterson sent a letter to Secretary Byrnes strongly urging that the State Department undertake a thorough examination of the international phases of atomic energy in preparation for the Attlee conference. He mentioned particularly the problem of the war-time Quebec Agreement and its relation to the post-war situation. While stating that this was a State Department matter, he offered the assistance of the War Department in pulling the facts together.

Following up this letter, Secretary Patterson had an hour's conference with Secretary Byrnes this afternoon, during which he reiterated his view that there should be prompt and thorough preparation for Attlee's visit. Secretary Byrnes was non-committal.

2 November 1945

Late this afternoon when he was discussing with Dr. Bush the forthcoming conference with the British and the Canadians, Secretary Patterson called on L. Amelson and asked him to prepare a study of the current situation under the Quebec and Cushined Development Trust Agreements and a tentative set of U.S. proposals for discussion. It was agreed that the proposals should follow the lines of Secretary Stimson's memorandum of September 11, and Secretary Patterson's of September 26 and should outline the
several stages of negotiations, viz.: revision of agreements
with the British and the Canadians, approach to Russia, and
finally an approach to the UNR. It was agreed further that Dr.
Rush's memorandum to the President of September 25, which went
into some detail, should be used as a guide in the preparation
of the study. Secretary Patterson remarked that while the study
might never see the light of day, it should be ready in the event
it was called for. Even though it might not be wanted by
anyone it would, in any event, serve to fill Secretary Patterson's
thinking on the subject.

7 November 1945

Lt. Arneson's study was given to Secretary Patterson this
morning. It consisted of two volumes: Volume I, Part A, analyzed
the current situation vis-a-vis the British and Canadians and
action taken under the Quebec and CFT agreements; Volume I, Part
B, outlined the U.S. position that might be taken as a basis
for discussion in carrying through the negotiations in several
stages; and Volume II was a compilation of the basic documents
supporting the recital of Volume I, Part A. The U.S. proposals
were admittedly tentative and were put forward merely as a point
of departure for further consideration by the Secretary and his
advisers.