

Trips: Trips - 17

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Dag Hammarskjölds saml.

Trip to Canada 1954

March 19

Hamilton(?) - Dept. of External Affairs, Canada

- to D.H.

DEPARTMENT OF



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
CANADA

Friday, March 19, 1954

REPLY TO BE ADDRESSED TO:
THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA

Dear Dag

The New York Times has just now revealed to me the reason for your visit to Stockholm. A member of the Swedish Academy! Have the 18 the same divine attributes as the 40? May Jacqueline and I, repeat to each other, in moments of discouragement at the general jollity of our time, that at least we are on first-name terms with one of the 58 immortals? Little did we know, when we first glimpsed cloud-gathering Olympos tenting with Eva and Brita Dahlman, and passed under the clear snows of Parnassos, that such an intimacy would ennoble our lives before twelve months had passed. Now we have yet another reason to look forward to meeting you again, in circumstances permitting leisurely conversation,

With best wishes in your great work as ever Hamilton
our friends are deeply grateful.

so that we can begin to experience in our own persons that mysterious transformation spoken of by Milton in his Comus:

"Till oft convers with heavenly habitants
Begin to cast a beam on th' outward shape,
The unpolluted temple of the mind,
And turn it by degrees to the souls essence,
Till all be made immortal..."

We have yet another reason, too, to regret that we missed you here in Ottawa. Yet we did not entirely miss you, either, because your speech at Carleton has been reprinted by the Department. We have both read your wise words on this age of responsibility. They were so apt and so needed that, as far as we are concerned, you have yourself provided us with a slogan such as you meant to warn us against. For us, henceforth, this is the age of responsibility. I only hope that we have as much success in converting others to this understanding, as you had in converting us. It was an outstanding and memorable address, for which we and others