

TRUMAN COMMITTEE  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

For Release  
A. M. January 9, 1944

Senator Harley M. Kilgore (D. West Virginia), Chairman  
of the Subcommittee of the Truman Senate Committee which  
investigated the Canol Project, stated:

"Today the Truman Committee filed with the Senate its report on the Canol Project. The report contains a summary of the facts and lists the conclusions. They speak for themselves.

"The emergencies of war frequently require quick action, but there is no excuse for wasting weeks of precious time and then hastily undertaking a project of this magnitude without considering the problems and alternatives involved. The cost of this project will be \$134,000,000. The money, transportation facilities, strategic materials and manpower could have been better employed elsewhere. Most of them have been wasted. Thousands of men have toiled through Arctic temperatures as low as 70 degrees below zero on a project that never should have been started and which was continued despite the adverse opinions of all of the qualified experts.

"Senator Homer Ferguson (R. Michigan) and I went to Alaska and Canada and investigated the scene of the project. Only those who have traveled over the vast area involved and seen the mountains, muskeg and barren territory can fully understand the immense difficulties inherent in the project. Thousands of miles of access roads and trails had to be built and river routes improved before the project could be constructed.

"This report is based on one of the most detailed and extensive investigations ever



conducted by the committee. Extended and numerous hearings were held in Canada and in Washington. All who cared to defend the project were heard at length. The Committee delayed its report in order to afford General Somervell an opportunity to make a public statement and a further opportunity to collect and submit additional data. The evidence was sifted and resifted. The conclusions are inescapable.