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- (c) finish the job by occupying enemy territory (one such manifestation is the brief presented to the Linister in Italy by the Loyal Edmonton Regt). After the last war there was, similarly, some demand from Canadian Troops to join the British Army of Occupation after the Canadians were withdrawn - a request that was refused by the Canadian Government, although accepted by the British.

5. The following factors may be considered as reasons for Canada not entering into the Army of Occupation, during Stages II, III or IV. -

- (a) The Canadian Troops overseas are, and will be at the time of the Armistice, in a position unique compared with the forces of other countries. Having been in England, some since 1939, many will have been on "foreign" service, with no chance of returning home for varying periods of years. Such a situation is unavoidable during actual war, but with the war over, there is bound to be some clamour that these troops should not be called upon for garrison duties, but should be sent home. Such an argument will be undoubtedly reinforced by the claim that Canada would be carrying out her full share of the settlement by its major role in U.N.R.R.A.

While many British Troops have been away from home for as long or longer periods and will have been actively fighting for a much longer time, service in Germany would not deny them the opportunity of regular leaves home to England. The American Troops will be geographically in the same position as the Canadians, but their time away from home will have been very much shorter. However, the Americans might feel that all their forces should be transferred to the Pacific Area immediately Germany is defeated; such a course would increase the demand to withdraw the Canadians.

It is felt that such a course of action by the U.S. is unlikely, as the numbers required for garrisoning would be relatively limited, and, in any case, shipping will probably be too congested to move all their forces to the Pacific Zone before the Japanese collapse.

- (b) The economic factor - The Canadian public, always sensitive to "unnecessary" spending, might object to the additional cost of maintaining any Army in "peace time" in foreign lands. Since, however, the terms of the Armistice are certain to throw the cost of the Army of Occupation on Germany, and, as will be outlined later, it is proposed to supply Canada's contribution from the Army that it is supposed will be held in being as a permanent force after the war, the Army of Occupation would represent a saving to the Canadian Government.

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