

The introduction of another executive channel between the Supreme Commanders and the Chiefs of Staff in Canada in the form of a Mission in London would tend to complicate the situation. It was desirable, therefore, that the corporate responsibility of the Mission in respect of employment and administration be limited to liaison and the collection and transmission of information relating to the conduct of the war and proposals for the employment of Canadian forces.

The amendments suggested would accomplish this object and approval of the instructions as so amended was recommended.

15. The War Committee, after discussion, approved the instructions to the Joint Staff Mission, London, as amended in accordance with the recommendation of the Minister of National Defence.

Employment of Canadian forces in Europe:
occupation of Germany

16. The Secretary, referring to the decisions taken at the meeting of December 11th, submitted and read a draft telegram to the U.K. government regarding the Canadian Army and Air forces to be made available, after the defeat of Germany, for occupation duty.

It had been thought desirable by the Advisory Committee on Post Hostilities Problems to put some time limit upon the availability of Canadian personnel, after which the position would be reviewed.

(Draft telegram, External Affairs to Dominions Office, Jan. , 1945).

17. The War Committee, after discussion, approved the draft telegram submitted, for despatch.

Employment of Canadian forces in Europe:
Mediterranean occupation

18. The Secretary, referring to the discussion at the meeting of December 11th, reported that a directive had been issued by the Combined Chiefs of Staff to the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean, on the subject of the occupation of territories in this theatre, in the event of an enemy withdrawal.

This directive had been issued at the request of the representatives of the U.K. Chiefs of Staff as a direct consequence of an exchange of telegrams between the Canadian and the U.K. governments and the effect was to restrict the employment of Canadian troops to temporary occupational duties in Austria and North-East Italy.

(Combined Chiefs of Staff directive, Dec. 12, 1944 - CCS 684/1.)

19. The War Committee noted the Secretary's report concerning the issue of this directive.