

and each provincial government, except the Province of Quebec, had submitted to the Continuing Committee their views respecting the classification of each section of the British North America Act for the purpose of reaching agreement on an amending procedure. The submission of the Province of Quebec was in general terms and did not attempt such a classification of the various sections of the Act.

The Cabinet Committee on the Constitutional Conference had met the previous day to review, in the light of the federal submission, the recommendations made by the nine provinces submitting detailed proposals. There was a remarkable degree of agreement between the various proposals and it seemed possible that some satisfactory compromise might be reached on those sections where there were still wide divergences of opinion.

11. The Prime Minister said that, although he anticipated that the Continuing Committee might not have much success in drawing up agreed recommendations, every effort should be made to achieve as much agreement as would be possible.

12. The Cabinet, after discussion, noted the report of the Minister of Justice respecting meetings of the Continuing Committee of Attorneys General, established by the Constitutional Conference of Federal and Provincial Governments.

National Defence; accelerated programme; Canadian Army Special Force

13. The Chief of the Naval Staff outlined recommendations for increase in strength of the Royal Canadian Navy under the accelerated defence programme. It called for an increase in complement from 9,600 to 13,440 officers and men over the period to 1953. During that time, it was proposed to put ten ships into commission, mostly for anti-submarine operations. North Atlantic Treaty Organization plans indicated a shortage of 260 anti-submarine escorts and the accelerated naval programme would be a definite contribution toward meeting this deficiency. Commissioning of the Cruiser "Uganda" was placed last in priority among the vessels concerned. An outline was given of the command arrangements proposed by the North Atlantic Ocean Region Group of the Organization.

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