

Total estimated cost of this proposed modernization programme was \$236,000. An explanatory memorandum had been circulated.

(Minister's memorandum, Dec. 4, 1944 - C.W.C. document 905).

11. Mr. Macdonald pointed out that the Loran stations presently in operation in Newfoundland formed an integral part of the network. At some future date, the question of the operation of these stations by Canada would doubtless come up for consideration.

12. The War Committee, after discussion, approved the Minister's recommendation.

Department of Veterans Affairs; provision of medical personnel from Armed Forces

13. The Secretary, at the instance of the Minister of Veterans Affairs, submitted an urgent request for provision from the Services of a number of doctors, nurses, and technicians, to meet the needs of the Canadian Pensions Commission and the Treatment Branch of the Department.

The matter was presently under discussion in Army Council. An explanatory memorandum had been circulated.

(Secretary's memorandum, Dec. 7, 1944 - C.W.C. document 903).

14. The Minister of National Defence said that the Department's reason for requesting seconding from the Services was that the Department's own rates of remuneration were not high enough to induce properly qualified personnel to apply, but this procedure was objectionable since appointments with the Department would be of long duration.

The Services were, however, directly concerned in ensuring that casualties from overseas, whether on Army charge or on that of the Department of Veterans Affairs, were adequately cared for and it was becoming clear that the flow of casualties would soon exceed the capacity of the Department's establishment. This should be a first charge on available medical personnel and facilities ahead of any extensions to public health services.

The two departments were working together on this problem and were improvising additional hospital space from National Defence resources.

15. The Minister of Finance was emphatically opposed to the practice of seconding personnel from the Services to perform civilian functions in other departments.

Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet War Committee,
Volume XVI, July - December 1944, (R.G. 2, 7c, Volume 16)

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