

assistance in reconstruction from the U.S. and certainly this would be more readily forthcoming to a Russia that had actively helped to subdue Japan. Again, by participating actively in the war, Russia could demand a more important part in the peace discussions.

19. Whether the role of Russia will be:

- (a) Benevolent neutrality,
- (b) Cooperation through provision of airfields,
- or
- (c) Outright participation in the war.

the broad outlines of the assault on Japan seem to follow the same pattern of a pincers movement against the centre, the British from Burma and Malaya, and the United States from the west across the island stepping stones starting at Hawaii and possibly to a limited extent from the ALEUTIANS. Russian action will hasten or delay the result depending on the degree of their cooperation.

PART III

CANADA'S ROLE IN THE FAR EAST

20. Under the circumstances visualized in the foregoing, Canada's role falls naturally into two parts (aside from cooperation of the R.C.N. and R.C.A.F.) namely to provide troops:-

- (a) To cooperate with the British forces starting from Burma and/or Malaya,
- (b) To cooperate with the U.S. forces on the other flank through Hawaii, and the ALEUTIANS (if used by U.S. for an offensive).

21. The troops that would be most readily available for supporting the British force starting through Burma and/or Malaya, would logically be those at present making up the Canadian Army Overseas. Apart from the fact that they will have been working closely with the British for many years, they will be in a position to be moved east together with the British formations so allotted.

22. The Canadian troops assigned to the attack from the Pacific, for the same reasons would be best supplied from the Army in Canada. Already at Kiska a start has been made in working under American Senior Command, and once the decision is made to participate in this way, training with American troops and equipment, and under American Senior Commanders can be immediately intensified.

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