

*Numéro 1*SECRET<sup>1</sup>

London, January 6, 1919

## 1. PEACE CONFERENCE

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(c) *Russia*. Sir Robert Borden has pointed out to the Imperial War Cabinet the utter futility of signing Treaties of Peace in Paris while conditions in Russia continue as at present. He pointed out that a definite policy must be decided upon without delay and that there seemed to be but two alternatives; (1) Intervention by the Allied nations with a military force sufficient to restore order and establish stable government. He regarded this as undesirable and as practically impossible as no one could foresee the enormous extent of military power necessary for the purpose or the length of time during which it would have to be made available. Moreover the disorders in Russia would probably break out afresh upon the withdrawal of the Allied forces at however distant a date. In addition the people of the Allied nations are absolutely opposed to any such proposal. (2) The other alternative is to summon delegates from the various Russian Governments to Paris, to insist that hostilities between them shall cease and to exercise such economic pressure as will compel any recalcitrant government to fall into line. After prolonged discussion the second proposal was accepted and it has been submitted for the consideration of the other Allied nations.

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*Numéro 2*

Paris, January 15, 1919

1. This memorandum covers the period from arrival in Paris on the evening of Saturday 11th January to the afternoon of Wednesday the 15th January.

2. Sir Robert Borden was accompanied to France by Mr. Christie, Colonel Biggar, Mr. Dafoe, Major Asselin<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Boyce.<sup>3</sup>

3. The circular memorandum received from the Imperial War Cabinet indicated that the other Ministers should proceed to Paris at a somewhat later date, as arrangements for their reception had not been completed; but on arriving in Paris Sir Robert Borden reached the conclusion that there was no reason whatever why they should not have accompanied him. Accordingly he sent a telegram on Monday desiring that the other three Ministers with necessary staffs should come to Paris at their earliest convenience.

4. On Sunday [January 12] there was an informal conference between representatives of the five Great Powers. Great Britain, France and Italy

<sup>1</sup> La plupart de ces rapports sont classés comme secrets et on avait probablement l'intention d'en faire de même pour tous. La classification est, toutefois, omise dans les derniers rapports.

<sup>2</sup> Secrétaire de la Mission militaire canadienne à Paris.

<sup>3</sup> Secrétaire particulier adjoint de M. Borden.