

Insufficient emphasis had been given to the importance of Canada's positive contribution to peace in fostering and maintaining good international relations. This was a central principle of Canadian external policy; we were too small and vulnerable to rely solely on defence arrangements.

The "permanency" of the Permanent Joint Board on Defence had already been recognized. Reference to the Board's continuance should accord with this decision. Alterations should also be made in the references to responsibility for Newfoundland defence and in the conclusion concerning possible sources of friction.

10. The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs pointed out that the object of the paper was generally to indicate objectives which, in the opinion of the government's advisers, constituted desirable elements of Canadian policy on this subject. The conclusions of the paper were submitted, not as a basis for present commitments but rather as a delineation of policy upon which departments might formulate specific proposals at a later stage.

11. The Minister of National Defence stressed the importance of technical research in the military sphere in collaboration with the United States. The Department was very anxious to obtain a definition of policy in this respect.

12. The War Committee, after further considerable discussion, agreed that the paper be referred back to the Advisory Committee for revision in the light of the observations made, and that, thereafter, it be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration.

Joint Staff Mission, London; instructions

13. The Secretary recalled that the War Committee, on October 5th last, had approved draft instructions for the Mission, subject to concurrence of the Minister of National Defence.

General McNaughton had now suggested certain amendments to the draft approved on that occasion, with the object of removing any doubt as to the Mission's responsibility with regard to executive action affecting the Canadian Army in the field. It was also suggested that the names of members of the Mission be omitted.

(National Defence memorandum to the War Committee, Jan. 6, 1945).

14. The Minister of National Defence explained that the Army Commander's present instructions clearly and explicitly provided for his relationship with the Higher Commanders and the government, through the Chiefs of Staff at Canadian Military Headquarters and National Defence Headquarters.