

in Belgium, in Greece and in Crete, arising from any premature or ill-conceived attempt to assist Thais, could not fail to have most disastrous results, particularly in the United States.

9. The choice seems to be not so much one of abandoning Thailand or of delaying action against Japan, as whether or not it is possible to give effect to a guarantee to Thailand, and until an appreciation of facts of position is available and until there is a clearer definition of views of the United Kingdom, and also the United States attitude in the event of a Japanese move in this direction, His Majesty's Government in New Zealand would prefer to wait before deciding on course of action proposed.

1343.

1698-A-40

Extrait du procès-verbal du Comité de guerre du Cabinet
Extract from Minutes of Cabinet War Committee

[Ottawa,] August 13, 1941

RELATIONS WITH JAPAN—MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN THE EVENT OF WAR

36. THE PRIME MINISTER reported that the special interdepartmental committee which had prepared plans for measures to be taken in anticipation of war with Italy had now considered and reported upon steps to be taken by the various departments of government in the event of war with Japan.

General ministerial approval of the Report was requested as well as specific decisions whether—

- (a) the receipt of the "war telegram" would be taken as a signal for the initiation of all of the measures recommended; and,
- (b) the registration of Japanese in British Columbia should be made compulsory and extended to the rest of Canada.

(See memorandum of August 7th, 1941,¹ regarding measures to be taken in the event of war with Japan, also report of the special committee on the same subject, dated July 28th, 1941.²)

37. THE SECRETARY reported that the interdepartmental committee took the view that, in present circumstances, not only should the registration of Japanese conducted in British Columbia by the R.C.M. Police be extended to other Provinces, but also that a penalty should be provided for those who did not register. A draft Order in Council to this effect was appended to the interdepartmental committee's report in connection with the matter of internment. It was proposed that this registration be proceeded with immediately.

¹ Document 1335.

² Non reproduit.

³ Not printed.