

sit on each other's boards.....

WRONG: A fact which made it a good deal easier for the two countries to utilize jointly their resources in the war.

FISHER: That, I think, brings us directly to the question of joint defense. During the war, Mr. Wrong, as you have just pointed out, we came to act pretty much as a unit. The Permanent Joint Board on Defense, I take it, is one instance of where we are continuing to work together intimately. I think it would be of interest if you and Mr. Atherton would discuss that Board for a few moments.

ATHERTON: It stems, I think, from 1940. In that year, President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Mackenzie King said publicly what a great many Canadians and Americans had realized for a long time but had left unsaid. That was that if any foreign aggressor lodged on Canadian soil the defense of the United States would be much more difficult.

WRONG: And Canada recognized, as Mr. King said, that if there was any large scale attack on Canada, it would be impossible for Canada to handle it without outside assistance.

ATHERTON: Obviously it ought to be our assistance - in our own interest. So we set up, with Canada, the Permanent Joint Defence Board.

FISHER: Does that Board have final authority over military questions between the two countries?

WRONG: On the contrary, it has no authority at all, Mr. Fisher.

ATHERTON: It's duty is to study and advise the Canadian and United States governments on the proper measures for the defense of North America.

FISHER: I have noticed that the word "permanent" is in the title of the Board.

ATHERTON: Yes. For a very good reason, Mr. Fisher. The facts of geography don't change. The Board is an interesting illustration of our joint relationship.