

A further explanatory note had been circulated.

(Army memorandum, Nov.26, 1944 - C.W.C. document 900).

13. The War Committee, after discussion, approved the Minister's recommendation.

Navy; participation against Japan; provision of repair facilities for Pacific operations

14. The Minister of National Defence for Naval Services and the Chief of the Naval Staff referred to plans approved by the War Committee on October the 11th for employment of Canadian Naval forces in the Japanese war. It would be recalled that these involved 13,412 officers and men at sea, some 4,000 reinforcements, and some 20,000 men ashore - a total of 37,000 all ranks.

The U.K. government had now submitted requests involving maintenance of repair yards on the West Coast, so as to be available to Royal Navy as well as R.C.N. units serving with the Pacific Fleet, and assistance in manning two of the repair ships of the Fleet train now being built in the United States.

(Letter, U.K. Deputy High Commissioner to External Affairs, Nov.8, 1944).

15. Mr. Macdonald observed that the West Coast repair yards were, for the most part, commercial and the question of their maintenance for R.N. ships was not a matter for the Navy.

With regard to manning repair ships, the mixing of R.N. and R.C.N. personnel had not proved entirely satisfactory and it was recommended that, as an alternative, Canada undertake responsibility for manning two escort maintenance vessels (as previously suggested by the Admiralty). This would contribute directly to the support of R.C.N. ships in the Pacific.

Additional personnel involved in the acceptance of this recommendation was estimated at 642 all ranks. There would be no additional financial requirements.

An explanatory note had been circulated.

(Secretary's memorandum, Dec.2,1944 - C.W.C. document 902).

Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet War Committee,
Volume XVI, July - December 1944, (R.G. 2, 7c, Volume 16)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES
CANADA