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OUTWARD TELEGRAM

C222669

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on.]

[The text of this telegram must first be paraphrased if communicated to persons outside British or United States Government service or if retransmitted in a cypher system other than O.T.P.]

[CYPHER]

WAR CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WASHINGTON

No. 381 SEVER

9th May 1944

D. 4.46 p.m. 9th May 1944

(via Air Ministry)

Following for Ambassador and Civil Missions from Chairman of North American Supply Committee.

Following are instructions referred to in last sentence of Prime Minister's telegram repeated in Foreign Office No. 3238 to Embassy.

1. Your talks with United States representatives should be informal and exploratory. Their purpose is to discover how far the Americans and we have common ideas on this subject. You should report fully on your discussions, after which consideration will be given to what action is required. In the meantime the views outlined below should be taken as general guidance.

2. We think that the Combined Boards should be maintained at least until the end of the Japanese war and if possible with their existing membership. We hope that your American colleagues will agree to this.

3. In the transitional period after the Japanese War we expect that it will be necessary to continue the control and allocation of many kinds of foodstuffs, raw materials or manufactured products which are in short supply and possibly also of shipping. It may be necessary that in some cases the machinery for this will have to be international as well as Anglo-American in character. Except in the case of shipping, for which definite proposals have already been made to take effect at the end of the German War, we think it premature to consider the nature of the machinery required in the transitional period until we have a more definite idea of the long term goals towards which we shall be working in the transitional period and the problems we shall face.

4. At present the tripartite committees established with the French and Belgians are the only mechanisms for bringing Allied governments into consultation on the utilisation and allocation of resources, apart from the well established shipping allocation committees with each of the shipowning Allies. We

expect...