

C158786

NAR/SR
2.5.43

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

I attach a copy of a memorandum which Mr. Escott Reid has prepared, summarizing the three official United Kingdom reports on post-war international air transport policy. The contents of the memorandum are given on the first page.

2. The concept of internationalization of air services appears so revolutionary to most people on this continent that it is going to be difficult to persuade people to give the proposal sympathetic consideration. One way of persuading them to give it sympathetic consideration is to demonstrate to them that the proposal is not fantastic and academic but is being put forward by informed and responsible persons in the United Kingdom.

3. The British have given us the information on which the memorandum is based on condition that the reports are circulated only to a very restricted list of persons on the higher ministerial level. So far as I know, the existence of the Shelmerdine, Finlay and Barlow committees has not even been mentioned in Great Britain much less the nature of their recommendations to the Government. It would be most unfortunate, therefore, if any public reference were made in Canada to these reports.

AK