

POOR PRINT
Epreuve illisible

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

APPRECIATION OF CANADIAN PARTICIPATION 287653

IN THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION

(GERMANY)

PART I

CA/OS
WS/44

1. The P.H.P. document "The Military Occupation of Germany" P.H.P. (43)43 (Final 24 Nov '43 deals in some detail with the problem that will have to be faced by the United Nations immediately following the cessation of hostilities against Germany. It is obvious that some agreed plan should be worked out now between the United Nations, before being faced with the actual problem, and although the P.H.P. plan is solely a British proposal it has now been accepted by the Chiefs of Staff Committee and by the Committee on Armistice Terms and Civil Administration, which will probably refer it to the European Advisory Commission in London, that was established at the Moscow Meeting. It formulated therefore concrete proposals which may be used as a basis for discussion from the Canadian viewpoint.

2. This appreciation is designed to put forward some of the aspects of the problem peculiar to Canada in the light of the P.H.P. proposals mentioned above.

3. The first question to be settled is whether or not Canada will participate in the actual Army of Occupation. The P.H.P. plan divides the problem into four stages:

- Stage I - the immediate aftermath of hostilities.
- Stage II - the first stage of disarmament.
- Stage III - the completion of disarmament.
- Stage IV - an indefinite period ending with the complete withdrawal of all Occupying Forces.

As far as Stage I is concerned, this visualizes the complete occupation of Germany by the Allied Forces actually on the ground at the time of the collapse of the German Armies - a fanning out of the attacking forces to take over the country. The question of Canadian participation in Stage I is purely an operational problem affecting Forces engaged in that theatre and therefore is not further discussed in this paper.

4. As far as Stages II, III and IV are concerned the following facts may be considered as favouring Canadian participation:

- (a) It is to be assumed that Canada's future lies in the sphere of international co-operation, wherein we will be required to play a part in world politics to a much greater degree than heretofore. The Canadian Government is not represented on the European Advisory Commission in London, but it is highly desirable that Canada should find a seat on any United Nations Commission that may be set up to regulate inter-allied post-hostilities problems in Europe. A right to a voice in such commissions would be seriously prejudiced if we were to refuse to accept the obligations of policing the enemy occupied territories. (COS)(43)304, 10 Dec '43 Appendix "A", para 9).

../2