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MEMORANDUM:

CABINET WAR COMMITTEE

Report from Interdepartmental Committee on Air Transport Policy
on Commonwealth Air Conversations

In accordance with the instructions of the War Committee on October 21st and 28th, 1943, the Interdepartmental Committee on Air Transport Policy submits the following comments on the report of the Canadian delegation to the conversations recently held in London between representatives of the Commonwealth governments.

The Committee wishes to express its appreciation of the large and important part played in the conversations by the Canadian representatives and of the value of the contributions which they made.

I. THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION.

The Committee recommends that the tentative outline of an international convention providing for the establishment of an international air transport authority be used as a basis for discussions with other nations. This outline leaves open a number of points of importance to Canada.

The Committee is preparing articles for a draft convention filling in these gaps in a way intended to protect Canadian interests. These draft articles will be available for the Canadian participants in the forthcoming international discussions.

After careful consideration of the proposals for an international authority the Committee has come to the opinion that to avoid the possibility of any misunderstanding at a later date, it would be desirable that the other governments participating in the London conversations be informed of the interpretation which Canada places on the more important points which have been left open in the outline of the international convention:

1. Canada, as the fourth greatest air power among the United Nations, expects to be a full member of the executive of the international air transport authority.
2. The jurisdiction of the international authority will extend to all international services, including services between member nations of the Commonwealth, provided that nations may reserve for bilateral arrangement those services which are extensions of domestic services to contiguous and to immediately adjacent territories. Canada, for

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