

TOP SECRET

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The proposals envisaged a ceremony to take place on Parliament Hill at 3:45 p.m., or whatever time was necessary to permit a broadcast by the Queen to form a part of it. It would include about 5,000 active force personnel, members of the reserve and, it was proposed, children from schools. An address of loyalty would be given by the Governor General, the Royal Standard would be broken out on the Peace Tower and, following the broadcast by the Queen, there would be a fly past, a gun salute and a march past. A reception by the government in the Parliament Buildings would follow. If the general lines of the proposal seemed satisfactory, it would be placed before the Executive Committee of the Coronation Committee and the Coronation Committee and then be referred to the Cabinet in final form for approval.

6. In the course of discussion it was suggested:

(a) that consideration be given to the issuance of souvenir medals to all school children in Canada on the occasion of the Coronation; and,

(b) that the Secretary of State's department ascertain the costs likely to be incurred by departments in connection with the Coronation and discuss with the Department of Finance the appropriation of funds for the purpose.

7. The Cabinet, after discussion, agreed:

(a) that the draft proposals for a national coronation ceremony, as outlined by the Minister of National Defence, be approved in principle, and that they be referred to the Executive Committee of the Coronation Committee and the Coronation Committee before submission in final form for approval;

(b) that the Secretary of State investigate and report on the probable cost of and possible arrangements for the preparation and distribution of souvenir coronation medals for all school children in Canada; and,

(c) that the Department of the Secretary of State ascertain the probable cost of arrangements or measures to be taken by departments in connection with the Coronation and consider with the Department of Finance arrangements for appropriations of funds.

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