

the department, interchangeable with other officers, or should they have a separate status under External Affairs?" The Committee rather vaguely thought that C.I.S. should be associated with External "along the lines suggested by the Minister of National Health and Welfare." The actual decision of the Committee was recorded in these words:

The Committee, after considerable discussion, agreed in principle that the organization of the Service within the Department of External Affairs (with an appropriate measure of autonomy) was desirable and requested the Minister, with the assistance of the Chairman, the Under Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Director, to have specific proposals prepared to this end.

The follow-up to this decision, which raised more questions than it answered, was traced in a MacDermot memorandum of December 4, 1946,⁽²²⁾ to the new Under-Secretary. Mr. MacDermot noted that the problem of absorbing C.I.S. seemed increasingly complex and was aggravated by the need to meet the deadline for estimates within ten days or two weeks. As some of the major questions to be dealt with, Mr. MacDermot cited:

- a) The integration of present C.I.S. operations in the organic structure of the Department;
- b) Disposal, use and status of present C.I.S. staff;
- c) Scale and nature of information operations under the new arrangement;
- d) Estimates;
- e) Legal questions bearing on the transfer.