

30. The Minister of National Revenue said that this matter had been the subject of discussion with the officials of the Corporation who had been told that the government would not be disposed at present to ask Parliament for funds for development of television services. It would be wiser to wait on further technical improvements.

The Corporation felt, however, that, while certain of the frequencies allotted to Canada for television could be released for private development, a number should be held for possible national use in the future.

31. The Cabinet, after further discussion, agreed that the Corporation be informed:

(a) that the government did not propose to ask Parliament to provide funds for the development of television services by the Corporation at present and were not prepared to approve the imposition of a license fee for television receivers;

(b) that there was, on the other hand, no objection to retention by the Corporation, for possible future use, of certain television frequencies allotted to Canada; and,

(c) that the present role of the Corporation in relation to television should be similar to that of the U.S. Federal Communications Commission, namely, general licensing and regulation of private development.

Government War Book; report of Cabinet  
Defence Committee

32. The Minister of National Defence reported that the Cabinet Defence Committee had now reviewed a first draft of the Government War Book prepared on the Committee's instructions to set forth the measures to be taken by departments in the event of an emergency.

A draft War Book had been approved as a basis for assigning responsibilities to departments and agencies and for detailed consequential planning. It would also provide for immediate action in the event of a sudden emergency.

The War Book, as approved by the Cabinet Defence Committee, would now be circulated to departments and agencies concerned and there would be opportunity for changes prior to printing and eventual submission to the Cabinet for approval.

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