

before hand
NAR/ET
10 Sept., 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER:

SECRET

C229073

As you know, both the United Kingdom and the United States have secured the services of a good many German scientists who have been transferred with their equipment to laboratories in those countries where they are able to carry forward research projects on which they had been engaged in Germany. A considerable number of German scientists have also gone to the U.S.S.R. on a similar footing. Canada has on a number of occasions been asked whether it would be interested in securing the services of any German scientists for research work. Up to now the line taken by the National Research Council has been that the possible political difficulties arising from the employment of such persons would probably outweigh the scientific advantages which might accrue from their work in Canada.

Dean Mackenzie told me today that he was no longer sure that this policy was wise. He felt that in certain special fields we might be losing the services and skills of men who might make a really important contribution to specialized forms of scientific research for which suitably qualified Canadian scientists are not available. He plans to discuss the whole question again with Mr. Howe, who may wish to raise the matter in Cabinet.

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