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2. What are the Combined Boards.

There follows a summary taken from official documents of the functions of each of the Combined Boards, and a statement of their present composition. Those parts of the extracts from official statements which bear on the relationship of the Boards to the United Nations have been underlined.

(a) The Combined Chiefs of Staff. This body was established during Mr. Churchill's visit to Washington in January. There was at first some intention to keep its existence secret and its creation was not announced simultaneously with that of the three other Boards then set up. Mr. Churchill revealed its existence in a speech in the House of Commons on his return to England, after which the War Department in Washington issued a public statement on February 6th. The Canadian Government has never been officially advised of the creation of the Combined Chiefs of Staff. The following extracts are taken from the press release of the United States War Department.

"The 'Combined Chiefs of Staff' group has been established by the United States and Great Britain to insure complete coordination of the war effort of these two nations, including the production and distribution of their war supplies, and to provide for full British and American collaboration with the United Nations now associated in prosecution of the war against the Axis powers." ... ..

"While the action of the Combined Chiefs of Staff on broad strategical questions will be in the form of joint recommendations to the heads of their respective governments, in minor and immediate matters relating to current operations they are prepared to take action without delay. The setup therefore amounts