

for manufacture of service type of aircraft and proximity to the vast resources of the United States of America. For this reason the conception of the scheme involves general agreement on the part of all Governments concerned that advanced training for trainees from elementary training schools should be centred in Canada. There would be a continuous flow of trained personnel from elementary training schools in Canada to theatres of operations. It would also be our intention that a number of those who have completed elementary training in the United Kingdom should receive their advanced training in Canada.

6. We appreciate that any such scheme of nationalized training must depend on adequate provisions for training types and advanced service types of aircraft. It is our hope that existing resources of the Dominion for production of trainers and their engines will be fully utilized and expanded to meet the requirements of elementary schools as determined by the extent to which each Dominion may decide to participate in the general scheme of training. It would not be the intention to retard or interfere in any way with projects already embarked on for Dominion production of service types. We are working out numbers and types of aircraft, both training and advanced, that we think would be required and we should be in a position to let you have particulars at an early date.

7. We should wish to do everything in our power as for example by the loan of personnel, to help in the building up of the organization outlined above.

8. It is of course contemplated that the first call on Dominion personnel who had received their training in schools under scheme would be for such air force units of Dominions as the participating Dominion Governments might be prepared to provide and maintain.

9. If a scheme on the above lines is acceptable in principle to your Government we suggest as a first step joint discussions between experts. We think that these discussions might most conveniently take place in Canada. We ourselves are ready at very short notice to send to Canada a mission of high standing specially qualified for this particular purpose and we hope that it might be possible for it to discuss questions of fact with similar missions from other Governments concerned.

10. We hope that you will agree as to the immense influence which the development and realization of such a great project as that outlined in this telegram may have upon the whole course of the war; it might even prove decisive. We trust therefore that this co-operative method of approach to the problem will appeal to your Government. The knowledge that a vast air potential was being built up in the Dominions where no German air activity could interfere with expansion, might well have a psychological effect on the Germans equal to that produced by the intervention of the United States in the last war with its vast resources.

11. It would be most helpful if you could let me know at the earliest possible moment whether your Government approved the suggested scheme in principle and whether they are agreeable to joint discussions in Canada in order that immediate arrangements may be made to that end.

12. I have conveyed the substance of the above scheme to the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand also. Ends.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DOMINION AFFAIRS