

four additional units. In any event, the aircraft could not be delivered for three or four years. On the other hand, it had been ascertained that the United Kingdom were in a position to deliver four Comet jet propelled transports. If the order for these aircraft were placed with the U.K. authorities immediately, two of the aircraft could be delivered in the near future and the remaining two in 1953. The only alternative aircraft of this type available were either Constellations which cost approximately \$2 million per unit, or DC-6's which cost approximately \$1.5 million per unit. The Comet aircraft would cost only \$1.25 million.

16. The Minister of Trade and Commerce was of opinion that the jet propelled U.K. aircraft should be purchased not only because the cost was lower and delivery could be made within a relatively short period of time, but also because it would give the R.C.A.F. valuable experience in flying this type of craft.

17. The Prime Minister noted that the Comet had a shorter range than the North Star but that there might be some advantage in placing a few of these faster and newer craft at the disposal of the R.C.A.F.

18. The Cabinet, after discussion, deferred decision on the purchase of four Comet jet propelled air transports from the United Kingdom pending further consideration by the Minister of National Defence and the Minister of Finance in consultation.

War Veterans' Allowances; relationship with old age security legislation

19. The Minister of Veterans Affairs, referring to discussion at the meeting of September 26th, 1951, said that it had been intended originally that, after January 1st, 1952, the monthly \$40 universal pension would be deductible from any award made under the War Veterans' Allowance Act. This decision had subsequently been reversed and the draft old age security legislation, as it presently stood, made no mention whatever of W.V.A. awards. At a previous meeting it had been agreed that the War Veterans' Allowance Act would not be amended during the special session of Parliament. As a consequence, after January 1st, 1952, universal pensions would be considered simply as income for the purposes of

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