Statement on resignation of Hon. C. G. Power, M.P.

Hon. members will recall that on Friday of last week, I informed the House that the report that the Honourable the Minister of National Defence for Air had tendered his resignation was correct. I added that I wished further to consider the matter carefully before reaching a decision on the advice which I wished to tender His Excellency regarding the acceptance of the Minister's resignation. I had hoped that over the weekend I might find it possible to persuade Mr. Power that the importance of the service which he was capable of rendering the country at this time of war, as a Minister, should outweigh all other considerations and that he might, as a consequence, withdraw his resignation. Mr. Power has felt, however, that he should not withdraw his letter and I have this morning very reluctantly been obliged to ask His Excellency to accept it. This His Excellency has done.

I now would ask leave to read the letters which have been exchanged between Mr. Power and myself with respect to his resignation as a member of the government and be permitted to table the correspondence which has passed between us.

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