

7. It would seem that following the German war the British army will be charged with a major role of occupying and pacifying a large part of Germany and the Balkans. It is to be admitted that this task may be equally divided between the UK, Russia and the United States, but the latter is not a continental power and it may well be that public opinion in the US will be sufficiently strong to whittle down the US share of this long and (to many sections of the US) unrelated task.

8. Should such action develop it is possible that the UK would be hard put to find any large bodies of troops available for service in the Far East. It follows therefore, that, while any Canadian participation will necessarily be small in relation to the whole, it would be of great military value as relieving the strain on the over all task assigned to the British Armies.

9. Shipping will be a major factor in shaping the final plans, and any trained forces that can be provided from the Canadian mainland will have considerable strategical advantages over those from European sources as representing a saving in shipping.

10. Political and Moral: Canada is a Pacific Power, a full partner of the United Nations and separately at war with Japan. It follows therefore that the moral and political obligations inferred in these facts would appear to point to full Canadian participation in the war with Japan.

11. While it might be recognized that the UK could indirectly discharge part of its far eastern obligation by relieving US occupying forces of part of this task in Europe, such arguments could hardly be applied to Canada - or if so they would be almost certainly misunderstood in the US. Like the United States, Canada is not a "Continental" power, but is a "Pacific" power. From the point of view of prestige in this area, where prestige or "face" has always counted for so much, particularly in China - Canadian participation may be regarded as most essential.

12. Nor would air and naval participation alone fulfil the "face saving" angle, since it is by troops on the ground that nations are made to feel the impact of a country's war effort. Canadian troops were humiliated at Hong Kong by the Japanese in front of the Chinese. It is necessary that this defeat should be avenged against the Japanese and that the Chinese may know that Canada is in fact a "Pacific Power" by the presence of Canadian troops both in China and finally in Japan.

13. Once Germany is defeated there is little doubt that public opinion in the United States will be very strong for demobilization of that part of the armed forces not required for the Army of Occupation or to meet the full strategic requirements of the Pacific war. Canada's position will be parallel only insofar as Canadian participation in the Far East is proportionately adequate, and United States public opinion would no doubt be most critical if Canada were to attempt any demobilization without this prerequisite.