

Canada. The most acute problems were in the North, where they gave rise to concern not only about the ownership of property but about sovereignty itself. Among other countries, relations with France (Chapter VIII) still had the greatest significance. Two issues were of special concern: the crisis over St. Pierre and Miquelon in December 1941, an awkward moment in Canadian relations with the United States as well as with France, and the development of policy towards the French authorities in North Africa after the Allied landing in November 1942. Otherwise, the most significant determinant of bilateral relations perhaps was involvement in the Pacific war, which brought closer, if not always harmonious, connections with Canada's two major allies in the area, Australia and China.

In selecting documents for this volume, the guidelines quoted in the Introduction to Volume 7 (pp. ix-xi) have been followed. As the editor of that volume observed (p. xi), the growth of communications was so great during the war that by no means every important document could be included. Indeed, the selection here has had to be even more rigorous in order to accommodate the main subjects within a single volume. To some extent, economy was aided by certain characteristics of the period and of the documents themselves. In the first place, many of the terms on which Canada participated in the war had been worked out by the end of 1941, making it possible to deal with the conduct of the war, the subject of most of Volume 7, in a single chapter. Secondly, the complicated issues of post-war planning were only beginning to receive consideration, with the result that Chapters III and IV, dealing with those subjects, could be kept fairly brief. Finally, partly because post-war planning was in its early stages and partly because the war discouraged the proliferation of international conferences, the number of lengthy briefing papers and reports is modest. Thus, although the total number of documents published here is larger than in any previous volume, many of them are short. In these circumstances, and because the record is now open to scholars, it seemed desirable to produce a single volume which, it was hoped, would offer a summary of the main events of the period and serve as a guide to archival research. Because of rising production costs, to have attempted two volumes would have delayed the appearance not only of half the material reproduced here but also of later volumes in the series.

As well as striving for economy in the treatment of subjects included in this volume, it has been decided to omit others entirely. The reasons for doing so, particularly with respect to subjects affecting the conduct of the war, may be of interest. Obviously, the distinction in wartime between military and diplomatic matters is sometimes a fine one, but the effort has been made to confine attention to the latter. Thus, some well-known incidents of the war are omitted altogether and others are dealt with in limited fashion: the Dieppe raid, for example, appears in the context of negotiations over prisoners of war, the fall of Hong Kong as a problem in Anglo-Canadian relations (the release of British documents to the royal commission of inquiry), and the Sicilian operation as an irritant in Canada's relations with its allies as a result of unsatisfactory publicity arrangements. Readers requiring a full account of the participation of Canadian forces in the war will wish to consult the relevant volumes of the official army and navy histories and, when it is available, the companion work on the