

3. Important international agreements should be presented to Cabinet for approval at some stage prior to their coming into force, unless they are within the framework of a decision already taken by Cabinet or approved by Order in Council.

4. International agreements requiring ratification (or its equivalent) should be approved by Order in Council prior to ratification (or its equivalent).

5. Policy matters should be handled by the Cabinet and need not go before Council, except where some legal sanction is required.

A.D.P. HEENEY

L.B. PEARSON

4. DEA/2925-B-40

Extrait du rapport d'une réunion des chefs de poste¹

Extract from Report of a Meeting of Heads of Post¹

CONFIDENTIAL

Ottawa, October 10, 1947

Chairman

Mr. L.B. Pearson, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs

Heads of Mission present were:

Mr. Warwick Chipman, Ambassador in the Argentine

Mr. Pierre Dupuy, Ambassador in the Netherlands

Mr. E.H. Norman, Head of the Liaison Mission in Tokyo

Mr. S.D. Pierce, Ambassador in Mexico

Mr. N.A. Robertson, High Commissioner in the United Kingdom

Mr. Emile Vaillancourt, Minister in Cuba

Major-General George Vanier, Ambassador in France

Mr. Hume Wrong, Ambassador in the United States

Mr. L.S. St-Laurent, Secretary of State for External Affairs was present at the afternoon session of the meeting. Other members of the Department present were: Mr. Laurent Beaudry, Mr. T.W.L. MacDermot, Mr. W.D. Matthews, Mr. S.D. Hemsley,² Mr. Escott Reid, Mr. M. Cadieux³ and Miss M.Q. Dench (Secretary).

The Chairman welcomed the Heads of Mission present and said that members of the Department in Ottawa were glad of an opportunity to discuss with them matters of mutual interest.

MORNING SESSION — ADMINISTRATIVE AND PERSONNEL MATTERS

I. *Finances of the Department for the Current Year*

1. Mr. Matthews briefly reviewed the Department's finances for the current year. He drew attention to Circular Document Admin. No. 30 which had been sent to all missions on September 26, 1947,† emphasizing the importance of incurring no expenditures except those which were absolutely essential for the proper conduct of

¹Il s'agissait de la première réunion de cette nature et il y en eut régulièrement par la suite.

This was the first meeting of its kind, and became a regular feature thereafter.

²Agent d'administration.

Administrative Officer.

³Cabinet du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures.

Office of Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.