

Circulated at meeting Nov 10
W-45

SECRET
CABINET WAR COMMITTEE
Document No 654

Ottawa, November 10, 1943.

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C-10-3-D

The Secretary,
Cabinet War Committee:

1. The direction of October 5th is that we "consider and make recommendations regarding suitable machinery to deal with disposal, by government departments, of surplus and obsolescent supplies." We have examined the problem by seeking to evaluate the situation as might exist were the war to end in the immediate future. An estimate is that wartime assets, which cost over three billion dollars, might be held by or for the Canadian Government. In addition, there would be in Canada (a) lend-lease materials of other allied governments, (b) developments and materials of the United States Government, mainly in the Northwest, (c) jointly-owned assets of the Commonwealth Air Training Plan and of the Inspection Board of the United Kingdom and Canada, and (d) various properties, movable and immovable, of the United Kingdom Government. Furthermore, there may be production commitments which, if cancelled, will release supplies of various kinds. The Canadian Government has also external war investments, particularly in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet War Committee,
Volume XIV, September - December 1943,
(R.G. 2, 7c, Volume 14)

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