

6. Regarding the improvement of existing bases, it is considered that Halifax will in all cases be the main Canadian Eastern base. Larger quantities of oil fuel than are already available must be stored there and in a less exposed position. An increase in the facilities for ammunition storage will be essential, such storage being underground. Docking and major repairs could probably be carried out in the United States but increase in repair facilities should be made. A drastic increase in A/A defence is an urgent necessity.

7. Should the American Fleet come to our assistance, some pre-organization will be required to enable co-operation with existing Canadian Defence Forces. A very necessary requirement in this connection is prior arrangement of efficient intercommunication.

PART III—ARMY PLAN

4. *Defensive Measures, Newfoundland*

(a) The Army plan should provide for:

- (i) Ground and anti-aircraft protection at the main objectives and coast defences in the case of Botwood, and Newfoundland Airport.
- (ii) Coast defences and anti-aircraft defence at Bell Island.
- (iii) Coast defences and anti-aircraft defence at ports used as bases by the Navy and Air Force.

(b) The following steps have been or will be taken:

- (i) An infantry battalion for the ground and small arm anti-aircraft defence of the Newfoundland Airport and Botwood seaplane base has been provided. The 1st Battalion Black Watch of Canada is now concentrated at above points. The Royal Rifles of Quebec are now mobilizing and will replace 1st Battalion Black Watch who will then return to 5th Infantry Brigade.
- (ii) To provide fixed defences for Bell Island consisting of two 4.7-inch guns and two Coast Defence Searchlights. Guns and lights are now being prepared. This work is being expedited. Two light machine guns now available with the Newfoundland Militia will be installed for the close protection from sabotage and also for defence against low-flying aircraft.
- (iii) To make arrangements for the training of a Company of Newfoundland Militia to be used for local protection at the more important centres of population.
- (iv) To make arrangements for the opening of a recruiting centre in St. John's for the Canadian Forces generally and the setting up of the requisite medical board.