

in the relations between the Armed Forces of the two countries and when this happens the responsible representatives undertake to have the matter studied by their respective services and to report the results. This is usually sufficient to dispel the problem, which otherwise might, in the process of more formal diplomatic communication, have grown in magnitude.

The Permanent Joint Board is not a combined staff and likewise in its national sections it is not a rival to the Military Staffs in Washington or in Ottawa. Its strength for its special task lies in the fact that it has not been clothed with any executive responsibility. It cannot order anything, but it can suggest what needs to be done. The Board has the duty to constantly review the situation and if any of its suggestions have not been acted upon it can draw this situation to the attention of the President and the Prime Minister. In practice this has proved to be ample authority.

During the war the PJBD was very active in the discharge of its responsibilities and it was under its auspices that the basic plans for the defence of Canada and Alaska were drawn up; that arrangements were made for such important defence undertakings as the Alaska Highway, the Northwest Staging Route for ferrying aircraft to Russia and China, the Milson Route across Hudson's Bay, Baffin Land, Greenland, etc. to Europe, etc.

It was at the instance of the Board also, in the immediate post-war period, that steps were taken to transform the international character of the various installations of these joint undertakings to ensure that full ownership and clear title to all establishments in Canadian territories should vest in Canada. Very large sums of money were paid over by Canada to the United States in this process of liquidation.

Since then the Board has concerned itself with the future.

At an early meeting the Board recognized the need for wider interchange of officers and specialists, including those concerned with the design of new weapons with a view to eventual standardization; for joint tests and the interchange of observers on exercises, etc.

The result of these discussions was made known in a statement given simultaneously on 12 February, 1947 in Ottawa Parliament by the Prime Minister, and in Washington by the Secretary of State. This statement defined the measure of agreement which had been reached for cooperation in our defence policies and set forth the following principles:

- (1) Interchange of selected individuals so as to increase the familiarity of each country's defence establishment with that of the other country;
- (2) General cooperation and exchange of observers in connection with exercises and with the development and tests of material of common interest..
- (3) Encouragement of common designs and standards in arms, equipment, organization, methods of