

be expected to make it, and that, should the occasion ever arise, enemy forces should not be able to pursue their way, either by land or sea or air to the United States across Canadian territory."

THE
OGDENSBURG
AGREEMENT

On September 10, 1939, Canada declared war on Germany. Eleven months later, on August 17, 1940, the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the United States met at Ogdensburg, New York, and signed what became known as the Ogdensburg Agreement. In presenting this agreement to the House of Commons, Prime Minister King stated:

"With the outbreak of war, the question of coast defences became of vital importance. At the same time, the fact that Canada was a belligerent and the United States a neutral complicated the problem of pursuing the discussion. In the face of the European menace it was obviously desirable to give expression to the needs of joint defence. To the means, however, of effecting this end, the most careful consideration had to be given in order that there might be no grounds for the belief that there was any attempt on Canada's part to influence the policies or to interfere in the domestic affairs of a neutral country... From the beginning the President made it perfectly clear that his primary interest in the subject was the defence of the United States. I was equally frank in making it clear that my concern was the effective defence of Canada and the defence of the British Commonwealth of Nations as a whole."

In the field of international affairs, this agreement marked a significant development. Canada, for the first time in its history, leaving aside its ordinary policy in external relations, made a defense agreement with a country outside the British Empire. And the United States, though at peace, entered into a sort of military agreement with a country at war. The Ogdensburg Agreement is as follows:

"The Prime Minister and the President have discussed the mutual problems of defence in relation to the safety of Canada and the United States.

It has been agreed that a permanent joint board on defence shall be set up at once by the two countries.

The permanent joint board on defence shall commence immediate studies relating to sea, land and air problems including personnel and material.

It will consider in the broad sense the defence of the north half of the western hemisphere.

The permanent joint board on defence will consist of four or five members from each country, most of them from the services. It will meet shortly."

THE CANADA-
UNITED
STATES
PERMANENT
JOINT BOARD
ON DEFENCE

The Canadian-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence was appointed August 22, 1940. The present membership is as follows:

CANADA

C. M. Biggar, K. C. Chairman
Major-General Maurice A. Pope
Air Vice-Marshal N. R. Anderson
Rear-Admiral G. C. Jones
Dr. H. L. Keenleyside, Department of External Affairs - Secretary