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NPA S-4-2-1

*Remarques sur le plan de défense de Terre-Neuve faites par un sous-comité  
du Comité de défense impériale*

*Remarks on Newfoundland Defence Scheme by a Sub-Committee of  
Imperial Defence Committee*

O.D.C. 794-R

SECRET

[London,] June [ ], 1937

The Dominions Office have referred to the Oversea Defence Committee for consideration the Newfoundland Defence Scheme, 1936, which was received under cover of a secret despatch from the Governor, dated the 11th May, 1936.<sup>1</sup>

2. The Defence Scheme was printed and issued in provisional form pending its examination by the Oversea Defence Committee. Copies were forwarded to the Governor, Newfoundland, with Dominions Office Secret despatch No. 550, dated the 20th November, 1936.<sup>1</sup>

3. The Governor, Newfoundland, under cover of his secret despatch, dated the 28th December, 1936,<sup>1</sup> returned one copy of the provisional Scheme, in which certain amendments to the Preface, consequent upon the issue of O.D.C. Memorandum No. 664-M<sup>2</sup> and a number of other minor alterations, resulting from changes which have accrued since the Scheme was drafted, had been made. These amendments have been included in the final prints of the Scheme.

4. The final prints of the Defence Scheme<sup>2</sup> are now issued with these Remarks. As this edition varies in some respects from the provisional edition (*vide* paragraph 3 above and Remarks below), all copies of the latter should now be destroyed.

## GENERAL REMARKS

5. This is the first Defence Scheme received from Newfoundland since the war, and the Committee wish to place on record their appreciation of the excellent way in which it has been prepared. The *pro forma* laid down in O.D.C. Memorandum No. 653-M<sup>2</sup> has been closely followed, and the Scheme should prove of the greatest value to those responsible for the defence of the Island.

6. The Instructions for the Preparation of Defence Schemes have, however, recently been revised by the Committee, and are contained in O.D.C. Memorandum No. 653-M (Revise), dated the 24th June, 1936.<sup>2</sup> The revised instructions do not necessitate any particular amendments to the Scheme at present under review, but the Committee would draw attention to the new Chapter VII, Passive Air Defence Measures, which will now be required.

*Local Forces*

7. The Committee observe that no plan of any sort exists for the active defence of Newfoundland, and that the only armed forces consist of 255 Constabulary and 50 Rangers, armed with obsolete and inefficient weapons,

<sup>1</sup> Non reproduite.<sup>2</sup> Non reproduit.<sup>1</sup> Not printed.<sup>2</sup> Not printed.