October 25, 1943.

Memorandum for information of the Honourable Members of the War Cabinet

Re: Vancouver Harbour Protection

The recommendation for appropriation for increased protection in this area is made for the following reasons:-

- 1. That the Harbour of Vancouver is very vulnerable to attack by incendiary bombs and, in the event of such attack, there is no fire-fighting equipment available to control fire by attacking it from the water.
- 2. That experience has shown that such fires cannot be effectively attacked from the shore.
- 3. That the Harbour of Vancouver is most important from the standpoint of National Defence, being the main outlet to the Pacific.
- 4. That, as Civil Defence has been defined as a part of National Defence, our programme should be designed to give maximum protection to areas which are of national importance.
- 5. That, in any event, an uncontrolled fire in the Harbour area would rapidly spread to areas where large numbers of the civilian population would be exposed to great loss and damage. Therefore, adequate protection in the Harbour area is essential from the standpoint of Civil Defence.
- 6. That the proposed expenditure would provide in the shortest space of time, with the least expense, a considerable measure of protection.

Alex. Ross, Director.

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