

16. The War Committee, after further discussion, agreed that, in accepting the cruisers and destroyers indicated, it be pointed out clearly to the U.K. government:

(a) that these vessels were being accepted by Canada, not for the purpose of expanding the Canadian Navy, but as a measure of "assistance to the Royal Navy in meeting the present shortage of navel manpower," as proposed by Sir Dudley Pound at Quebec;

(b) that, nevertheless, acceptance could not involve commitments respecting use of the vessels subsequent to transfer; they would become an integral part of the Canadian Navy and, as such, necessarily at the sole disposal of the Canadian government and Canadian Parliament.