

armistice or peace with the common enemies or any of them.

The foregoing declaration may be adhered to by other nations which are, or which may be, rendering material assistance and contributions towards the defeat of members or adherents of the Tripartite Pact.

130.

DEA/3014-40

*Mémorandum du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
au Premier ministre*

*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Prime Minister*

[Ottawa], December 29, 1941

NOTES ON PROPOSED JOINT DECLARATION OF ALLIED POWERS

I. PREAMBLE:

(i) The segregation of Great and Small Powers in the preamble is novel and open to some objection. The classical diplomatic arrangement is in French alphabetical order. Any departure from this order is bound to be troublesome and invidious. In terms of war potential or of immediately effective contribution to the struggle, it is difficult to put what is left of Free China in a separate and higher category than that which will contain Canada, The Netherlands and India.

(ii) The omission of India from the proposed list of signatories is still, Mr. McCarthy reported, under consideration in London. I note that India and Burma were separately represented at the Inter-Allied meeting in London, held on September 24th, 1941. With the turn the war is taking, it would seem wise to take advantage of every opportunity for the recognition of their developing international status rather than reverse the trend which is already in process of establishment.

(iii) The omission of Luxembourg, which was also represented at the Inter-Allied meeting in London, is probably inadvertent. It has as much claim to be included in the list as some of the tiny Central American republics which have declared war against Germany and Japan in the last fortnight.

(iv) More important is the studied exclusion of any recognition of the Free French Movement. General de Gaulle, as "Leader of Free Frenchmen" was represented at the London Conference. The Free French Movement is making a more effective military contribution at the present time than a number of the Allied Governments whose status and legitimacy is [*sic*] unchallenged. The colonial territories under its control are also of very considerable economic and strategic importance. In the particular circumstances in which the Declaration was drawn up in Washington, it is understandable that no provision was to be made for the Free French Movement in the list of immediate signatories. It would, I am sure, be a mistake, however, to slam the door finally against their reinstatement, and I think the adhesion clause of the Agreement should be so drafted as to permit Free French accession to a declaration of principles for