

Mar. 1/46

MEMORANDUM FOR THE

C190100

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Revision of Governor General's
Documents

It occurred to me that you might wish, at this time, to have a memorandum concerning the procedure which is under consideration in connection with the impending appointment of Field Marshal Alexander as Governor General of Canada.

2. The documents constituting and regulating the Office of Governor General have not been revised since 1931, and, indeed, were not even then brought thoroughly up to date. Accordingly, early in the present year, a Committee was set up within this Department to prepare a revision of the documents in the hope that it might be possible to have the documents reissued prior to the appointment of a new Governor General. The Committee accordingly prepared a first draft revision, on the following principles:-

- (a) that the documents should be consolidated so far as possible, and reissued by His Majesty under the Great Seal of Canada;
- (b) that the documents should be altered, wherever necessary, so as to make them consistent, in form and in substance, with the existing constitutional position and the present practice.

3. The Committee's first draft has recently been examined by an interdepartmental Committee composed of representatives of this Department, of the Departments of Justice and State, the Clerk