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CABINET WAR COMMITTEE
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MEMORANDUM:

CABINET WAR COMMITTEE

Re: Air Raid Precautions Organization; Policy

Recommendations submitted by the Minister of Pensions and National Health as to Air Raid Precautions Organization policy (C.W.C. Doc. 629) were placed before War Committee on October 6th and referred to the Chiefs of Staff for consideration and advice as to the extent to which, in present circumstances, the Air Raid Precautions Organization in Canada might reasonably be reduced.

The Chiefs of Staff, in reply, submitted a review by the Joint Planning Sub-Committee on scales of attack upon Canada, in which they concurred. This review, which delimited the areas of Canada subject to "definite" and "slight" risk of enemy action (C.W.C. Doc. 634) was noted by War Committee on October 12th and it was agreed that the question of civilian defence policy be considered at a subsequent meeting with the Minister of Pensions and National Health and the Director of Air Raid Precautions, the Minister to be informed, meantime, of the areas considered by the Chiefs of Staff to be subject to risk of enemy action.

The Chiefs of Staff have subsequently forwarded their comments on certain subsidiary questions included in the recommendations originally referred to them. These questions dealt with change of name from A.R.P. to Civil Defence, official designation of officers, provision of badges and some form of medal or decoration, evacuation officers, and auxiliary fire fighting equipment at Vancouver Harbour, B.C.

The Minister of Pensions and National Health and the Director of Air Raid Precautions Organization will be present for discussion of the whole subject. Explanatory memoranda from the Director are attached to this document.

A. D. P. Heeney,
Secretary.

Privy Council Office,
October 26th, 1943.

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