

these views, the Canadian government desires to emphasize that they are preliminary only and will, as is pointed out in the memorandum itself, be affected by the views of other governments and by discussions between the belligerent powers which will later take place. The Canadian government expresses the earnest hope that a procedure will be worked out for these later discussions which will be satisfactory to all the countries concerned and reflect their contributions to the war against Nazi Germany.

It is the understanding of the Canadian government that the presentation of this submission does not prejudice in any way Canada's subsequent appropriate association with other active belligerent powers in the making of peace with Germany. The Canadian government has taken note of your statement that the special deputies are unable to give any assurance in this regard. Nevertheless, the Canadian government hopes that you may report favourably to the council of foreign ministers the suggestions contained in the memorandum which I forwarded under copy of my letter of January 14.

May I emphasize, in conclusion, that the government desires to play a helpful and constructive part in the German peace settlement. We are fully aware of the major interest in this settlement of those states which, because of their power or proximity, must carry the main responsibility for enforcing it. We realize also the difficulty of negotiating a settlement through procedures that will provide equitable and adequate recognition of the interests of all active allied belligerents. In the waging of war, however, Canada contributed her resources of men and material without reserve. No question of partial participation arose. It should be possible, therefore, to ensure for Canada an opportunity to contribute to the negotiation of peace on the same basis of honourable partnership that characterized her contribution to the war.

Canada was proud to share the fortunes of war with her allies. She expects to share with them also the task of making a just and lasting peace.

CANADIAN SUBMISSION ON THE GERMAN PEACE SETTLEMENT

1. The Canadian government presents below certain preliminary views on the principles that should, in its opinion, underlie the German peace settlement.

2. These views will naturally be affected by those of other governments and by the discussions which will later take place. The present Canadian submission is made in the hope that it may make some contribution to these discussions, and with a full awareness of the extreme complexity and fundamental importance of the whole question.

3. The Canadian people, even if they so desire, can not isolate themselves from this

question of a German peace settlement. Their vital concern with wars originating in Europe has been demonstrated twice in a generation. The importance to Canada of a satisfactory settlement of the German problem is therefore obvious, for distance gives Canada no escape from the consequences of a bad peace.

4. The Canadian government is fully aware of the major interest in the German settlement of those states which, because of their power or proximity, must carry the main responsibility for enforcing that settlement and which have suffered most from German aggression in the past. It realizes the difficulty of negotiating a settlement through procedures that will provide equitable and adequate recognition of the interests of all allied belligerents. In the waging of war, however, Canada contributed her resources of men and material without reserve. No question of partial participation arose. It should be possible, therefore, to ensure for Canada an opportunity to contribute to the negotiation of peace on the same basis of honourable partnership that characterized her contribution to the war.

5. Speaking before the plenary session of the Paris conference on August 2, 1946, the Prime Minister of Canada said:

"The war effort of Canada was an all-out effort. It was planned, and carried out to the limit of our ability, for two main reasons. We wanted to help to bring the war to a victorious close at the earliest possible day. We also wanted Canada's contribution to be of an order which would entitle us to share effectively in the making of the peace. . . We in Canada felt that the measure of our participation in the war against aggression would have warranted a similar measure of participation in the decisions of peace." The views of the Canadian government in this regard have not changed.

6. The difficulty experienced by the Canadian government in expressing views on the German problem is increased by the fact that previous arrangements amongst the great powers, in which it had no part and about which it was not consulted, have, in some degree, predetermined the nature of the settlement. At Potsdam, and in the allied control council in Berlin, decisions were taken and practices adopted which have already affected materially the peace settlement. For this reason it is all the more necessary that the settlement should now be concluded by procedures which allow free and continuing discussion and examination by all the active allied belligerents.