

personnel for the Pacific contingents; in this respect government policy was not clear.

It was also agreed that a further revision be prepared, in the light of the discussion, for early consideration.

Participation in Japanese war;
Air Force programme

10. The Prime Minister read a personal exchange of telegrams between Mr. Churchill and himself regarding the proposed R.A.F.-R.C.A.F. Pacific bomber force.

Mr. Churchill's message stated that the United States had agreed to make available for the operation of this force an area in Northern Luzon, and stressed the importance of its being fully self-contained and independent of U.S. forces in relation to construction and provision of facilities.

In reply, Mr. King had observed that the Canadian concern had been to avoid incurring a disproportionate commitment, on somewhat scanty premises, and had pointed out that, so far, no details of the present proposals had been presented here. They would, of course, be considered immediately when they had been received.

(Telegrams, No. 54, Dominions Office to External Affairs, March 20, and No. 79, External Affairs to Dominions Office, March 27, 1945).

11. The War Committee, after discussion, noted with approval the Prime Minister's report.

Permanent forces; postwar requirements

12. The Minister of National Defence for Air reported that he had received word from Overseas Headquarters that the Royal Air Force and the Royal Australian Air Force had announced that they were prepared to consider applications for permanent appointment to commissions in their respective Services.

This raised the question as to whether similar action should be taken in the Canadian Services, and illustrated the desirability of having some preliminary study given to the general problem of post-war requirements and plans for permanent forces.

An explanatory note had been circulated.

(Secretary's memorandum, March 28, 1945 - C.W.C. document 969).

13. The War Committee, after discussion, agreed that the Advisory Committee on Post-hostilities Problems be directed to initiate a preliminary study of the nature and extent of the permanent forces which

Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet War Committee,
Volume XVII, January - May 1945, (R.G. 2, 7c, Volume 17)

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