

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

Premier projet d'un plan de défense du Canada
First Draft of a Plan for the Defence of Canada

SECRET

...

[Ottawa,] July 9, 1940

PART II—NAVAL PLAN

1. *General (East Coast)*

The scale of attack is that which could be provided by the combined forces of the German and Italian Navies, or whatever units might be remaining to these Navies after a major conflict with the British Fleet. It is obvious that the present Naval Forces of Canada cannot meet this scale of attack, neither can they be developed to do so. It is therefore a prerequisite of any plan that the British and/or the U.S. Naval Forces must be available for any Naval defence of Canada.

2. It must be borne in mind that should the British Isles fall to invasion, such pressure might be brought to bear by the enemy on the personnel of the British Fleet through threats to their wives and families ashore that the fleet might not be available for our defence. The only guard against this would be a comprehensive evacuation scheme of wives and families of Royal Navy personnel from the United Kingdom.

3. On the assumption that the Naval Defence of Canada must be conducted by the British and/or American Fleets, their first requirements from Canada will be the provision of adequate bases and in the case of the British, special stores, ammunition, etc., which will no longer be available from the United Kingdom.

4. With regard to bases, the Navy should immediately undertake the provision of Naval defences for additional bases and the improvement of those at present existing. It will be necessary to strengthen the army and air force to provide for the security of the existing and additional bases.

5. It is considered necessary to establish the following new bases without delay:

- (a) Gaspé
- (b) Shelbourne
- (c) An advanced base in Newfoundland.¹

Appendix I² gives details of proposed and possible bases and action on the recommendations shown in this Appendix will be taken.

¹ Un mémorandum de l'état-major général en date du 3 juillet 1940, mentionnait sous le titre "Plan naval":

¹ A memorandum by the General Staff on the defence of Newfoundland dated July 3, 1940, stated under the heading "Naval Plan":

Owing to the total lack of resources at the present moment, all that can be done is to arrange that a destroyer on completion of outward convoy duty from Halifax will call at St. John's.

² Non reproduit.

² Not printed.