

In 1923 the Chiefs-of-the-Staff Sub-Committee of the Committee of Imperial Defence reported that:

"His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom is mainly responsible for the security of the communications between the several parts of the Commonwealth,"

and also stated:

"Each of the several Dominions is responsible for protecting its territory and coastal trade against aggression until support comes from the outside."

The following are, therefore, our responsibilities:

- (a) Maintenance of internal security.
- (b) Preservation of strict neutrality, law and order within our territorial waters in time of peace.
- (c) Protection of our coasts and sea-borne trade in time of war.

In conclusion, I can say that the present Government of Canada is now and has been since assuming office acutely conscious of its primary responsibility for local defence.

The final question is two-fold:

1. The nature and extent of the development and extension program considered necessary for our local defence.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939
(M.G. 26, J 4, volume 157, pages C112217-C112961)

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