

and political reasons. The phraseology of their reply would likely follow that of their reply to the earlier invitation to sit with the Military Committee, i.e., they would agree to "participate on a non-membership basis".

It was suggested that, if the government agreed to Canadian participation, it should be on a similar basis to that of the United States; also that, for the present, Brigadier Clark act for Canada with this Committee as well as with the Military Committee.

Presumably the Canadian reply to the invitation would be withheld until a final decision had been taken in Washington.

(External Affairs memorandum to the Acting Prime Minister, and attached papers, Oct.26, 1948).

6. The Cabinet, after discussion, agreed that, provided a favourable decision were taken by the U.S. government, a reply be made to the invitation, agreeing to Canadian participation on a non-membership basis in the Western Union Chiefs of Staff Committee.

Palestine; relief for refugees

7. The Acting Prime Minister noted that the delegation in Paris had requested instructions concerning the attitude they should take on an anticipated proposal of the U.K. government for the relief of a large number of Arabs and some Jews who were refugees from the fighting in Palestine.

This was a matter which Mr. Pearson could look into when he was in Paris; his advice would then be available to the Cabinet.

(External Affairs memorandum to the Acting Prime Minister, Oct.26, 1948 and attached papers).

8. The Cabinet, after discussion, noted the Acting Prime Minister's report and agreed that no commitment be made concerning Canadian contribution; the matter to be considered again upon report by the Minister from Paris.

Berlin situation; air lift; Canadian participation

9. The Secretary of State for External Affairs reported on developments since the meeting of October 20th.

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