

Much attention was given to developing a consular service in the United States, but the only result by the end of 1945 was a decision to open a temporary vice-consulate in Portland, Maine (a port and rail terminus of importance to Canada, where the British office was being closed). The comment of our ambassador in the United States, L. B. Pearson, is worth quoting: "Isn't there something absurd about Canadian consular representation in Portland, and no such representation in places like Detroit, Buffalo, Chicago, or Los Angeles. I feel very strongly that our consular service in this country must be set up according to a carefully worked out plan and that we are only on the road to trouble and confusion if we try to do it in any other way." (Document 121.)

4. Relationship with the Supreme Allied Commands in Europe:

Following the retirement of General McNaughton and in anticipation of the invasion of the continent of Europe, this relationship was reviewed (documents 229 ff.). It was recognized that the right of withdrawal from a combined force could be exercised only in extreme circumstances (document 230). A Joint Staff Mission was established in London for liaison with the Supreme Allied Commands.

5. D-Day:

Because of disappointment about the announcement of the invasion of Sicily in the previous year, the publicity arrangements for the D-Day landings received close attention from the Canadian government (documents 325-7).

6. The conscription crisis of 1944:

King consulted with Churchill and Roosevelt in dealing with this crisis (documents 330-2, 336).

7. Repatriation of Canadian forces from Europe:

In May 1945, Canada threatened to withdraw 30 cargo ships on loan to Britain if more space was not found on trans-Atlantic sailings for the repatriation of Canadian troops (document 356).