

Employment of Canadian forces at the end of
European hostilities; financial estimates

3. The Secretary reported that the Department of Finance had now made a preliminary review of the proposals put forward by the Armed Services with respect to European occupation and participation in the war against Japan.

The present status of these proposals was as follows:

The Army had recommended one occupation group (approximately 25,000 men) for employment in Europe; this had not yet been approved. The Army proposal for participation against Japan (one division and ancillary troops - total personnel 30,000) had been approved by the Cabinet on November the 20th.

Navy proposals involved no forces for European occupation duty. For the Japanese war, the War Committee, on October the 11th, had approved a force of a complement of approximately 13,412 officers and men, subject to such changes in composition as further examination might prove to be desirable and subject to approval of financial estimates.

As to the Air Force, the former Minister had proposed that eleven R.C.A.F. squadrons should be authorized for occupation duties in Europe and twenty-two squadrons for participation in the Japanese war. No decisions had been taken on these proposals.

On October the 20th, the estimates involved in all of these proposals had been referred to the Minister of Finance for examination and report.

An explanatory note had been circulated.

(Military Secretary's memorandum, Nov. 7, 1944 - C.W.C. document 901).

4. The Minister of Finance reported that a preliminary review of estimates received by his department indicated the following approximate requirements for the next fiscal year:

Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet War Committee,
Volume XVI, July - December 1944, (R.G. 2, 7c, Volume 16)

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