PRELUDE TO WAR 1285

mobilize. In addition, army guards on vulnerable points also placed on Active Service. All troops called out to be known as the Canadian Active Service Force.

## 3. Air Force

All units of the Royal Canadian Air Force have been ordered to mobilize and action being taken to place them on Active Service as from 1st September. Reserves being called up as required.

1048.

Le haut commissaire en Grande-Bretagne au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

High Commissioner in Britain to Secretary of State for External Affairs

Telegram 335

London, September 2, 1939

MOST IMMEDIATE. SECRET. Following is the present situation just described by Inskip.

When the German reply to last night's warning message by United Kingdom Government is received and if it is an unsatisfactory one as is expected, Henderson will present manifesto of war to be effective either at once or at a specified hour. If the latter alternative is decided upon, this will be because of a request from the French Government, who cannot constitutionally declare war except by Parliamentary action. Their Parliament meets this afternoon. Also the French are anxious that their general mobilization should be nearer completion before war is declared.

Some sort of reply is expected from Germany. Henderson telegraphs from Berlin that it is not impossible that the German answer may embody a last minute effort to avoid war with Great Britain, but he declared that any terms proposed will be quite unacceptable.

Inskip stated that it is officially reported that the fighting which has taken place on the Polish frontier is very light in character and that the Poles have as yet made no retreat. Ends.

MASSEY

1049.

Le secrétaire aux Dominions au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures Dominions Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs

Telegram 55

London, September 2, 1939

IMMEDIATE. SECRET. Swiss Minister in London has informed His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom that German Minister in Switzerland has requested Swiss Government to take charge of German interests in the United Kingdom, the arrangement to enter into force immediately in the