

economic considerations and it may be deemed desirable from a purely Canadian point of view to withhold scrap from the markets for some years. Similar considerations may also exist in regard to equipment not in scrap form. Numerous aerodromes with extensive facilities built thereon are located at or near small municipalities which may be willing to take over the property with the idea of operating only a part of it but only if the property can be obtained at small or no cost.

5. It appears therefore, that disposal of assets should be left entirely to the discretion of Canada in order that full regard may be given to political and economic considerations, that any desire of the Government to confer benefits on provincial and municipal bodies through transfer of assets may be carried out without being influenced by the possible interest of a partner in the plan and that long drawn out negotiation and settlement with a partner may be avoided. The only practicable manner in which these conditions can be achieved is to have the U.K. as a partner in the B.C.A.T.P., waive all interest in residual assets of the Plan subsequent to March 31, 1945.

Free issue to United Kingdom of Surplus B.C.A.T.P. Assets

6. From time to time, requests have been received from the U.K. for certain equipment, declared surplus to the needs of the B.C.A.T.P., for use by U.K in the active prosecution of the war in Europe or elsewhere. It is impossible to state the type and extent of such equipment requirements but from an examination of the vouchers accumulated to date it would appear that no amount of major importance is involved. It is a fact that were such equipment to be retained in Canada in the normal disposal process, storage and maintenance costs would be incurred. It is considered reasonable, therefore, that such surplus Plan Assets as are required by U.K. for use by the Royal Air Force should be issued free provided they are not required by the other Armed Forces of Canada and provided U.K. undertakes responsibility for packing and shipping costs. Requirements of the R.C.A.F. in the post-war period would have to be satisfied of course, in determining whether or not equipment is to be declared as surplus.

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