

Operational Reports

1. Major Geymonat, with the aid of intelligence maps, reported on the progress of the war in Western Europe, in Italy, on the Russian front, and in South-East Asia.

2. The War Committee noted the report made by Major Geymonat.

Army reinforcements;
Inspector General's Report

3. The Minister of National Defence, in submitting the Report of the Inspector General, Canadian Forces Overseas, said he thought the War Committee would like to hear from General Sansom himself. The War Committee had previously taken note of General Sansom's interim report and would no doubt be glad to hear his statement of the conclusions he had reached after his visit overseas.

(Report of Inspector General on reinforcement situation, March 29, 1945).

4. General Sansom said that he had visited all theatres in which Canadian troops were employed, first the United Kingdom, where he had discussed the matter generally with General Montague, then Western Europe where he had seen General Crerar and each divisional commander. He had availed himself of the opportunity of visiting the commanding officer of every infantry unit in the 3rd Division. These units were all up to strength at the time of his visit. He then returned to the United Kingdom, where he had inspected the reinforcement units and gone carefully into the matter of reinforcement training.

When he arrived in the Italian theatre, the 1st Corps had just received orders to proceed to Western Europe. He had seen all senior commanders there and found that although some slight deficiencies existed in unit strengths, there were enough reinforcements in the theatre to complete all units to establishments. There was, however, a shortage of reserves of reinforcements, a situation which had existed for some months. He had, nevertheless, been assured by Generals Burns and Foulkes that, at no time, had the 1st Corps been hampered or restricted in the conduct of their operations by a shortage of reinforcements.

5. General Sansom referred to the difficulties of estimating accurately the number of reinforcements required, as forecasts both of activity and wastage had to be made several months in advance. Prior to August, 1944, the Canadian Army had based their calculations on British figures, which, for certain reasons, had not proved applicable to the Canadian

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