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POST-WAR INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT

Draft reply to Dominions Office telegram Circular D206
of April 7.

TO THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON.

MOST SECRET

Dominions Office Circular D.206 of April 7. Post-war civil aviation.

1. We have for some time been examining the question of post-war international air transport and, as you know, the Prime Minister made a general statement on the subject on April 2. Our Interdepartmental Committee on International Civil Aviation is now drafting its report and hopes to be able to submit it to the War Committee by the middle of May. The Committee is giving particular attention to the policy of internationalization though it is likely to feel that airlines between Canada and the United States and domestic airlines within Canada and the United States should be excluded from such a scheme and should continue to be operated by the domestic air line companies of Canada and the United States. Until the Government has received and considered the report we are not likely to be able to elaborate the statement of April 2 in which it was made clear that we were prepared to support in international negotiations whatever international air transport policy can be demonstrated as being best calculated to serve not only the immediate national interests of Canada but also our overriding interest in the establishment of an international order which will prevent the outbreak of another world war. The Prime Minister also pointed out that it was intended to press for a place in international air transportation consistent with Canada's geographical position and its progress in aviation which had made it the fourth greatest military air power among the United Nations.
2. We have studied with interest the reports of the advisory bodies which the United Kingdom Government have asked