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CABINET WAR COMMITTEE
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Summary to War Committee of the Cabinet
Re - Canadian Army Participation in
the occupation of Germany

1. Purpose

To approve Canadian Army participation in the occupation of Germany on the following basis:-

- (a) The Canadian Force to comprise one Occupation Group organized as an infantry formation of approx 25,000 men. This will be organized around a Division to provide a self-administering unit well suited to keeping separate the Canadian contribution.
- (b) The Division to provide the framework of this Force to be selected by the Army Commander with such substitution of selected units, if necessary, as may be required to ensure country-wide representation.
- (c) This Force to form part of the troops required for the British zone of Occupation in Germany.

2. Consideration

- (a) The problem of occupying Germany has been divided into four stages, of which the Stages 3 and 4 are still indefinite as they cover the period of gradual withdrawal of the various controls from Germany with consequent reduction in the Army of Occupation.
- (b) Stage 1 is the immediate aftermath of hostilities, where the attacking operational troops fan out to take over the designated occupation areas. Stage 2 is the adjustment and disarmament period where the troops who took part in the attack on Germany are relieved by the Army of Occupation. This memorandum deals with Stage 2 requirements.
- (c) To carry out the total occupation of Germany, the country is to be divided into separate zones between Russia, the United States, Great Britain and possibly France.
- (d) The Cdn Force would form part of the British zone of Occupation, which will be in the Western portion of Germany.
- (e) The War Cttee of the Cabinet has already approved Cdn Army participation in demilitarization duties with the Control Commission - Mil Section - in the British Zone. These duties are closely connected with those of the Army of Occupation.

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Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet War Committee,
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