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*Assistant Lt  
Army T.M.*

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C 278662

FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA.  
TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN, LONDON.

Ottawa, May 23rd, 1940.

IMMEDIATE

CYPHER

NO. 588

With reference to your No. 633 of May 19th, the Cabinet War Committee have given careful consideration to the suggestions for further co-operation put forward by the Army Council, and have today reached the following decisions, which you are requested to communicate immediately to the United Kingdom government:

1. The Canadian government are willing to undertake to provide and maintain an Infantry Brigade for garrison service in Iceland and to provide the equipment described in your telegram. The organization of this force will be undertaken without delay. It is not yet possible to indicate when its organization will be sufficiently advanced to permit of its transportation.

It is assumed that provision of such artillery, anti-aircraft, air and naval protection, as is considered appropriate, will be arranged by the United Kingdom government.

2. The Canadian government are prepared to provide a further available Infantry Battalion for service in the West Indies. This unit can be ready for embarkation at an early date.

3. The Prime Minister announced in the House of Commons, on Monday, the government's decision to form a Canadian Corps in the field, in accordance with arrangements which have been discussed by the Minister of National Defence, with the War Office, and also the decision to undertake the raising of a third Division