

(4) Possible Alternative Courses.

The Combined Boards are technically agencies of the United States and the United Kingdom Governments alone, although they are charged with giving due weight to the interests of the other United Nations. Their members are Ministers and officials of these two governments, all of whom are charged as well with important national duties. The staffs attached to the Boards also consist of officers of the two governments most of whom perform other national duties. Other countries are represented only by members on some of the committees dependent on the Boards.

One course which might be followed would be to maintain and emphasize the two-power character of the Boards and perhaps to arrange for a clarifying statement to this effect to be issued in London and Washington. It could then be said that our entire concern in connection with them was to ensure that Canadian interests were borne in mind in framing their recommendations so that such of these recommendations as concerned Canada would be more readily adopted by us. This might be acceptable to the United Kingdom and the United States Governments, but it would not be a desirable solution of the problem. The more effective the Boards are, the more must their proposals carry the consent of all the United Nations concerned with them. To emphasize that they were agencies only of two governments would be to invite constant departures from their recommendations. One attraction of