

NATIONALIST CHINA

7. This post, which has proved very useful in the past two years, is no longer of value. The Military Attaché has been withdrawn.

SWEDEN AND FINLAND

8. Being situated on the periphery of Soviet-controlled territory, these countries have proved to be a most fruitful source of intelligence on the Soviet Union. Travel is unrestricted and intelligence unobtainable from other sources is often acquired.

9. The fact that Sweden is still not committed to the Soviet or Western Bloc, together with her strategic location and her possession of significant war industry, air, land and sea forces, combine to make her a target of unusual intelligence interest. Furthermore, many of the operating problems of all services parallel those found in Canada; hence knowledge of Swedish development is useful.

10. The present Air Attaché has provided much valuable information. In view of Sweden's all round importance, however, it is considered that the Air Attaché's efforts should be supplemented by those of Naval and Military Attachés.

NETHERLANDS

11. A Naval Attaché accredited to The Hague would be able to acquire not only intelligence regarding the forces of the Netherlands themselves but a certain amount of Far Eastern intelligence as well, as the Indonesian Navy is at present being run by officers of the Royal Netherlands Navy.

12. During the recent tour of the Minister of National Defence to European countries the Canadian Ambassador to The Hague informed the Assistant Chief of the Naval Staff that he considered a Naval Attaché should be appointed to his staff.

13. It is considered that the importance of the Royal Netherlands Navy warrants a Naval Attaché being appointed to The Hague in addition to the present Military Attaché.

BELGIUM

14. Proportionate to the size and importance of the Belgian Air Force, the flow of information from this post has been adequate. However, the effectiveness of the Belgian Air Force is slight, the aircraft industry small and unable to meet the requirements of the Air Force. When information is required on Belgium, it can usually be obtained through other channels, in particular the North Atlantic Pact (Western Union) organization. It is, therefore, proposed to withdraw the Air Attaché, but to accredit the Military Attaché in The Hague to Belgium as well as to the Netherlands.

FRANCE

15. The Military and Air Attaché posts in France have been established for a period of over three years, during which time the flow of information has been steady and timely. Since the status of France as the key to the defence of Western Europe is likely to continue for the foreseeable future, these Attaché positions are considered to be of continuing importance.