

Army; arrangements for command in Canada

3. The Minister of National Defence said that further consideration had been given to re-arrangement of the Army's organization for command during the postwar period.

This question had been discussed, the previous week, at a conference of General Officers Commanding. It was proposed that the headquarters of certain military districts be absorbed into existing command headquarters, thus reducing the number of administrative headquarters from sixteen to eleven, permitting economies in personnel and finance and simplifying lines of communication.

(Memorandum, C.G.S. to Minister, Dec. 5, 1946).

4. The Cabinet, after discussion, agreed to defer decision upon the proposals submitted by the Minister.

Emergency powers; legislation; Chinese in Canada

5. The Minister of Mines and Resources, referring to the decisions taken at the meeting of November 26th, reported that the Cabinet Committee on Immigration Policy had examined the various emergency Orders affecting persons of Chinese origin and had prepared a draft bill to amend the Immigration Act in a number of particulars; viz. ports of entry, permission to return with immigrant status, permission to visit the United States.

The question of permitting entry into Canada of wives and children of Chinese presently in this country was one of some difficulty, the solution of which involved important general considerations.

6. The Secretary of State for External Affairs pointed out that, under the United Nations Charter, it would be urged that Chinese in Canada were entitled to have their families with them here. This "right" would not apply to new entrants, but only to those who had been permitted to come in and settle in this country.

7. The Cabinet, after further discussion, noted the Minister's report and agreed that the Cabinet Committee prepare and submit a draft bill to amend the Immigration Act, including therein provision for admission to Canada of wives and children of Chinese lawfully in Canada.

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