

(c) Should the R.C.M.P. intern (but not technically as "enemy aliens") the small number of Japanese who they think should be interned for cause?

(d) Should the Japanese Legation and Consulate be closed?

The Custodian of Enemy Property will, on receipt of the War Telegram, ask Council to enact an Order making Japan "proscribed territory".

N. A. ROBERTSON

1374.

1698-A-40

Le secrétaire au Comité de guerre du Cabinet au conseiller juridique
Secretary, Cabinet War Committee, to Legal Adviser

SECRET

Ottawa, October 25, 1941

Dear Mr. Read,

At the meeting of the Cabinet War Committee held on October the 22nd, consideration was given to the enquiries of the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, set out in the memorandum of October the 21st.

The Committee agreed that upon the outbreak of war between the United Kingdom and Japan:

- (a) Canadian Forces should not be given orders to engage the Japanese, unless they were attacked; the government would, at the time, decide upon the orders to be given;
- (b) there should be no arbitrary and automatic suspension of communications with Japan; the code and cypher privileges of the Japanese Legation might be withdrawn;
- (c) the R. C. M. Police should proceed with the internment of such Japanese as they thought should be interned for cause; and
- (d) it would probably be thought expedient to close the Japanese Legation and Consulate in Canada without awaiting similar action in respect of the Canadian Legation in Tokyo; this question should await decision in the event.

Mr. Robertson is already aware of this decision. I thought it might be useful, however, for you, as Chairman of the Inter-departmental Committee, to have a separate note of the discussion.

Yours very truly,

A. D. P. HEENEY