

Mr. Ritchie said he found this information on the whole reassuring. But he reverted to the Canadian suggestion that the Preamble of the draft Instrument should omit all reference to the United Nations or to the Allied Representatives acting on the authority of their Governments. I said that this suggestion would be borne in mind. I had, for the present, no instructions to reopen this whole question in the Commission. My own view was that it would be better done, if at all, after we had the views of all the Dominion Governments and after we had some idea of the views of the European Allied Governments.

We then turned to Article 12(a). I told Mr. Ritchie that the difficulty about referring to the United Nations in connection with the statement that the three Powers would "possess supreme authority with respect to Germany" was that we might lay ourselves open to a challenge by the Germans on the ground that some act or other by the three Powers was not in fact approved of by the other United Nations. The extent to which the other United Nations would participate in the control of Germany was a domestic United Nations matter and not a matter which could conveniently be dealt with in a document to be signed by the Germans. As regards such participation, I reminded Mr. Ritchie of the proposals which had been made in our papers about machinery, of which I thought the Canadian Government were aware. In these papers, we had suggested three possibilities:-

- (i) that France might be added to the three Powers at some later date;
- (ii) that there should be an Advisory Council on which the other Allied Governments chiefly concerned would be represented, sitting side by side with the proposed High Commission. The Canadian Government had, I thought, already seen the paper in which we had outlined our preliminary ideas as to the constitution of the Advisory Council;
- (iii) that a number of Allied nationals should be appointed to the Control Machinery staff.

I had no idea how these proposals would be received by the American and Soviet Representatives. Neither of them had hitherto looked with any favour on the participation of other Governments in the direction of the Control Machinery. The problem was indeed a very difficult one. We had to reconcile on the one hand the claims of efficiency, which would argue in favour of three-Power rather than many-Power direction, and on the other the claims of Allied Governments for the adequate representation of their views and interests.

Mr. Ritchie said he did not think the Canadian Government would make unnecessary difficulties for reasons of prestige, and that they would fully realise the practical aspects of the problem; but they would naturally wish to be able to assure the Canadian public that, in view of her big part in the war effort, Canada was being given an adequate opportunity to express her views and exert her influence.

W. STRANG

3rd July, 1944.