

Peace Settlement with Germany

armed forces in the common struggle against Germany should have ample opportunity to express their views on the settlement of German problems which are of interest to them.

3. The council, accordingly, hereby invites the Canadian government to communicate in writing at its early convenience to the deputies for Germany its views on those aspects of the German problem which are of interest to it.

4. The deputies for Germany will study these expressions of view and submit them, with a report, to the council of foreign ministers at its next meeting.

5. If the Canadian government wishes also to present views on the Austrian problem it is requested that such views should be communicated in writing to the deputies for Austria whose instructions are to proceed with the preparation of a treaty recognizing the independence of Austria and to submit proposals on this subject at the next meeting of the council.

6. The Canadian government, and the other governments to which a similar communication is being addressed, will, of course, be given full opportunity if they so desire to supplement their written communications on Germany or Austria by oral presentation to the deputies concerned.

7. Replies to this communication should be addressed to The Secretariat, the Council of Foreign Ministers, Lancaster House, London, S.W.1.

Sincerely yours,

Warren Kelchner,
Secretary General.

COVERING LETTER WITH STATEMENT FOR
PRESENTATION TO SPECIAL DEPUTIES
OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN
MINISTERS

14th January, 1947.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a statement which the Government of Canada has instructed me to communicate to the deputies of the council of foreign ministers. This statement is made in response to the invitation to make known its views on the settlement of German and Austrian problems which was communicated to the Canadian Ambassador in Washington by the secretary-general of the council of foreign ministers.

The observations made in this statement on the procedures proposed for the preparation of

[Mr. St. Laurent.]

the German settlement apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the procedures proposed for the preparation of the Austrian settlement.

I should be grateful if you would bring this statement to the attention of the deputies.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

N. A. Robertson,

High Commissioner for Canada.

The Secretariat,
Council of Foreign Ministers,
Lancaster House,
London, S.W.1.

STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO SPECIAL
DEPUTIES OF THE COUNCIL OF
FOREIGN MINISTERS

January 14, 1947.

The essential interest of Canada, as of other countries, in the terms of the German settlement, is that it should provide the basis for a lasting peace. The Canadian government hope to submit later a statement of principles which, in their view, would contribute to this end, and on which detailed political, territorial and economic provisions of the settlement could be based. The Canadian government is, however, limiting its submission at this initial stage to the question of procedure and, in this connection, proposes that appropriate provision should be made by the council of foreign ministers for the continued association of Canada, as an active participant in two wars against Germany, in the preparation of the German treaty.

The detailed application of this proposal would, of course, have to be worked out. To this end, it is suggested that Canada and other interested allies might, with advantage, work with the deputies, and take a full part in discussions both on questions of procedure and of substance relating to the German treaty. If this principle were accepted, it should be applied in a manner which would allow the various allied countries to assist in drafting those sections of the settlement in which they were most directly concerned. Collaboration of this nature at an early stage would have the advantage of acquainting all the allies in an intimate way with the problems which might arise during the preparation of the treaty. This procedure would also prevent the recurrence of the situation at the Paris conference, where the smaller powers were faced with previously drafted treaties, the details of which were unfamiliar to them, and which were difficult to change. It would be possible also by clarifying in a satisfactory