The proposed stations would be tied in with a third to be established in Alaska and with the U.S. defence system there. If a trial with the three indicated that such advance warning stations were desirable, there might be a proposal by the United States to establish a chain of 40 stations stretching to the northern tip of Greenland. It had been suggested that the cost of such a chain would be about \$200 million but it seemed more likely that it would cost many times that amount. Manpower involved would be very great. The plan for the three experimental stations had grown out of pressure by the U.S. Civil Defence Organization to have some greater means of early warning of an attack. The project had been discussed in the Permanent Joint Board on Defence.

- 15. In the course of discussion it was suggested:
- (a) that, as the proposal concerned U.S. defence and as the United States was to undertake the full cost of the experimental stations, it would be difficult not to agree;
- (b) that it should be made clear in the note that a condition of approval was that the United States turn over to Canadian authorities any data of scientific value concerning Canada acquired in carrying out the surveys or other work; and,
- (c) that it would be desirable for the Minister of Resources and Development to notify the responsible authorities in the Yukon and Northwest Territories of the proposed developments as soon as possible.
- 16. The Cabinet, after discussion, approved the recommendation of the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs and agreed:
  - (a) that a draft note in accordance with the terms submitted be sent by the Canadian Ambassador in Washington to the Secretary of State of the United States concerning Canadian approval of and conditions attached to the establishment of two experimental early warning radar stations in the general region of Aklavik, Northwest Territories and Herschel Island, Yukon Territory and the making of surveys for the selection of sites for a possible permanent system of stations, on the understanding that the note would be modified before despatch to make clear the understanding that the U.S. authorities would make available to the Canadian authorities any information of scientific value acquired in carrying out the project; and,

NG 2, A5a,

National Archives of Canada Archives nationales du Canada

Privy Council Office Bureau du Conseil priv