

C 113976

(a) Anticipating placing orders for coast defence armament equipment included in 1939-40 Estimates. This seems a reasonable procedure (no very definite information is given as to what armament equipment are now available at ports and what progress is being made with equipment already ordered).

(b) \$650,000 to be made available in Supplementary Estimates for batteries on East Coast, and \$100,000 for temporary platforms. It is stated that these sums were struck out of the previous Estimates. Presumably if they were struck out, they were considered less urgent than some other items. If the situation has changed in these respects cannot an adjustment be made accordingly?

(c) That anti-aircraft equipment to the value of \$11,500,000 should be ordered at once in England, involving a supplementary estimate. No information is given as to what progress has been made in the filling of the orders for anti-aircraft equipment placed in England two years or more ago; no estimate is offered as to the time it would take to fill these new orders if placed in England, and no reason given for believing that the placing of new orders will be any more effective from the point of view of actual delivery than the previous orders have been. A report on present equipment and progress of the efforts that have been

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