

MEMORANDUM FOR CABINET WAR COMMITTEE

**re Report of Special Committee on
Measures to be taken in the Event of
War with Japan**

1. War Committee gave general approval to the Report on October 9, subject to concurrence by the three Defence Services which has since been given.
2. In addition to this general approval, it is desirable that War Committee should expressly decide now whether the "War Telegram" (notifying Canada of the commencement of War between the United Kingdom and Japan) may be taken as a signal to do some of the things recommended in the Report. The alternative would be for the execution of some or all of those recommendations to be delayed until Canada formally enters the war.
3. It is necessary to obtain a decision as to whether the following action can be taken on receipt of the War Telegram and pending declaration of war or other formal action by the government:
 - (a) Should the Canadian armed forces, and in particular the Canadian Navy, engage the Japanese?
 - (b) Should communications with Japan be terminated?
 - (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".