

Minutes of the
War Committee of the Cabinet
October 11, 1944

TOP SECRET

Ottawa, October 11th, 1944.

CABINET WAR COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Cabinet War Committee was held in the Privy Council Chamber on Wednesday, October 11th, 1944, at 3 p.m.

Present:

The Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King),
in the Chair,
The Minister of Finance (Mr. Tilsley),
The Minister of National Defence for
Naval Services and Acting Minister of
National Defence (Mr. Macdonald),
The Minister of Justice (Mr. St. Laurent).

The Under-Secretary of State for External
Affairs (Mr. Robertson),
The Secretary to the Cabinet (Mr. Heeney),
The Military Secretary (Major-General Pope),
The Assistant Secretary (Mr. Baldwin).

Also present (for item dealt with in
paragraphs 1 and 2):

Major P. Geymonat, Directorate of Military
Intelligence (Army),

and (for item dealt with in paragraphs 9 to 14):

The Minister of Labour (Mr. Mitchell),
The Deputy Minister of Labour (Mr. MacNamara),
The Director of Mobilization, Department
of Labour (Mr. McLaren).

Operational Reports

1. Major Geymonat, with the aid of
Intelligence maps, described the progress of Allied
operations in Western Europe, in the Mediterranean,
and on the Eastern Front.

2. The War Committee noted the reports
made by this officer.

International civil aviation; draft instructions to representatives at forthcoming meetings

21. The Secretary submitted documents to be used as a basis for participation by the Canadian delegation in the forthcoming Commonwealth and international meetings. Copies of the principal documents had been circulated.

In international discussions, Canada should continue to urge the establishment of an international authority with regulatory powers. She should also seek to conclude arrangements which would make possible the establishment of a Canadian service to the United Kingdom, a Canadian service to the West Indies and Brazil and Canadian participation in a Pacific operation. Commonwealth arrangements entered into should be on a non-exclusive basis.

(General instructions for Canadian delegation to international air conference, Sept. 20, 1944 and attached appendices - C.W.C. document 879).

22. The War Committee, after discussion, approved the documents submitted as a basis for action at the forthcoming meetings.

Enlistment of Canadian-born Japanese

23. The Secretary referred to the recommendation of the Department of National Defence discussed at the meeting of September 23rd.

24. The War Committee, after discussion, agreed that the recommendation submitted, for enlistment of Canadian-born Japanese in the Canadian Army, could not be approved, but that such personnel might be enlisted in Canada in the Armed forces of other United Nations; the position of Canadian-born Japanese so enlisted in Canada not to be affected in consequence of such enlistment and service.

Celebration of V-Day

25. The Secretary reported that the
Cabinet on October 10th had agreed that arrange-