

**GREAT BRITAIN: Cabinet Office 4
Committee of Imperial Defence
Miscellaneous Memoranda "B" Series
1903-1939
MG 41 Cab 4, Accession 1994/0306**

In the creation of the Cabinet Office, the Committee of Imperial Defence acted as a catalyst. The Secretariat of the Committee of Imperial Defence was responsible for recording the minutes of that body from the time of the committee's inception in 1902 until 1914. The CID was an advisory body with no executive powers. With the assistance of numerous sub-committees it advised the Cabinet and government departments on both the general principles of defence policy and their detailed application. The Prime Minister was its Chairman and only permanent member. A permanent secretariat established in 1904 became the Cabinet Secretariat in 1916.

The class (Cabinet 4) consists of "B" series papers, which include papers circulated to the CID on subjects other than home defence.

Copied for the National Archives of Canada by the Public Record Office in 1994. There is little of direct relevance to Canada, most of the material in the class being of general interest to the Commonwealth in relation to contingency planning for war. Documents related to Canada are described below.

CAB 4/3, 1907-1911

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 4/3	101-B to 132-B	B-6098

Includes a listing of the "B" Series: number of each document, title and subject, description and origin, and document date. Outside dates of the series: 1907-1911.

Subjects covered include, among other topics:

Aerial navigation - especially dirigible balloons; the military needs of the Empire - a discussion of military assistance which might be given in Europe by the Navy and British Army in response to German aggression; the treatment of neutral and enemy merchant ships in time of war; UK ships in foreign ports and foreign ships in British and Empire ports; submarine mines; military aspects of the continental problem; co-ordination of departmental action on the outbreak of war - including the role of the Colonial Office in notifying Dominion governments; the jurisdiction of prize courts over vessels detained in port; Egypt; and Dutch Coast defences.

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Of particular relevance to Canada are the following:

- < **116B The Overseas Transport of Reinforcements in Time of War; Report of Standing Sub-Committee of CID, June 16, 1910.**
Discusses role of self-governing colonies. Canada thought to be in best position to render aid promptly in case of trouble near to home or to reinforce Australia. Covers transport of reinforcements to India and of troops from the Dominions quoting Admiralty view of safety of sea routes. Admiralty decline to give view of safety in wartime without knowledge of ships of the enemy.

- < **128B Establishment of a Chain of Wireless Stations throughout the Empire; Report and Appendices of the Standing Committee of the CID, June 1, 1911**
Terms of reference, reports and correspondence.

Cab 4/4, 11 Dec. 1911-May 1912

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 4/4/1	133-B to 138-B	B-6099

Submarine Cable Communications in Time of War. Report of the Standing Sub-Committee of the CID. Relates to maintenance of cable communication between all parts of the British Empire in time of war, including protection of shore-ends, protection from being cut at sea, repair, use of neutral territory, establishment of wireless stations. Includes reference to "All-British" cables laid since 1898, including the Pacific cable between Vancouver and Australia, New Zealand, via Fanning Island, Fiji and Norfolk Island. *Of particular relevance to Canada:*

- < **136-B Report of the Standing Sub-Committee of the Committee of Imperial Defence on Submarine Cable Communications in Time of War**, Paper No. 136-B, pp. 39-58, 1911. The report notes (p. 45) that no steps appear to have been taken in Canada to protect the landing-place. The Committee recommends that representations be made to the Canadian government that such steps as are possible should be taken for its protection. Recognizes that Atlantic and other cables are liable to be cut, but would not isolate UK because of alternative wireless links. Newfoundland and Canada cables belong to American companies.

CAB 4/7 Mar 31 1918 - Jan. 13 1922

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 4/7	235-B to 329-B	B-6100

List of document in “B” Series, Papers 235 to 329 inclusive. For each paper, there is a title and subject, a description and origin of the paper, and its date.

Subject covered include: aliens restriction orders; committees; official histories; The Freedom of the Seas; proposal to establish a military agreement between Great Britain, France and Belgium; Imperial Wireless Telegraphy Committee, 1919-1920; Air Staff memorandum on the policy which should govern the distribution of Air Forces and some consideration as to how they should be employed; deputation of Army Committee to the House of Commons to the Prime Minister - proposing body to coordinate work of the three services and recommending adaptation of CID; future relations with Belgium; use of explosive projectiles from aircraft; Tangier; British commitments abroad; military liabilities of the Empire; survey of naval, military and air obligations of the British Empire; obligations of the Air Force; naval construction; supply of munitions and armaments in a future war; naval shipbuilding policy; airship programme; armaments - League of Nations; nitrogen problem in its relation to national defence; co-operation between Army, Navy and Air Force in defence of British ports at home and abroad; revision of War Book; naval commitments; transport and shipping stores for the conveyance of Expeditionary Forces overseas; disarmament; Washington Conference on limitation of armaments; food control orders; Washington Conference; limitation of tonnage of battleships; submarines; Wei Hai Wei; naval ratio; aeroplane carriers and capital ships; use of asphyxiating gas. *Of particular relevance to Canada:*

< **241-B Report of Imperial Wireless Telegraphy Committee, 28 May 1920**

Recommended, inter alia, that a scheme of Imperial wireless communications be established; that it employ generation of radio-telegraphic energy by thermionic valves; communication be established by valve stations between England and Canada, subject to decision in conference between the Imperial and Canadian governments; that the stations be planned by a wireless commission; that construction be entrusted to General Post Office and equivalent Dominion and Indian authorities.

Cab 4/8, Jan 12 1922 - Sept. 27, 1922

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 4/8	330-B to 390-B	B-6100

List of documents, “B” Series, Papers 330 to 390 inclusive.

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Washington Conference; cancellation of contracts for four battle cruisers; laws of war; reduction of national armaments; proposed Ministry of Defence; scheme for development of a commercial airship service; proposed denunciation by Norwegian government of Integrity Treaty of 1907; The Next War in the Air; question of national service in a future war; responsibility for anti-aircraft defence and air operations; gas warfare; the Navy and the Air Force; strategical aspect of the present location of trans-Atlantic cables in the event of war. Proposed diversion of government cables from Ireland, extension and proposed site in England; international code relating to prisoners of war; proposal for a limited form of press control in the event of minor emergencies; Near East; Freedom of the Straits. *Of particular relevance to Canada:*

< **364B Strategic Aspect of the Present Location of Trans-Atlantic Cables in the Event of War. Letter to Secretary from War Office, Sept. 22 1922**

Reports that of 14 trans-Atlantic cables (to Canada) only four do not originate in Irish Free State. Details ownership - 4 American, 2 British leased to American company and 2 British government. Expect any action regarding US-owned cables would give offence in Washington. Irish cable stations depend on land-lines across Ireland. Essential to have at least one cable direct from England to Newfoundland or Canada, touching on no other country.

CAB 4/9, Jan. 1923 - June 6 1923

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 4/9	391-B to 430-B	B-6101

List of documents, "B" Series, papers 391 to 430, inclusive. For each paper, there is a title and subject, a description and origin of paper and a date.

Laws of war. *Of relevance to Canada is the following:*

< **421B Article 10 of the Covenant of the League of Nations. Amendments proposed by the Canadian Government. 28 April 1923**

Letter and memorandum from the Foreign Office to the Secretary, Committee of Imperial Defence, regarding the need to settle views of His Majesty's Government in order to discuss them with Dominions delegates before Assembly meets. It is considered desirable that there should be unanimity between different units of the British Empire. The

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Canadians had always objected to Article 10 on the grounds that it created an obligation on every member of the League to go to the assistance of any member whose territorial integrity or political independence were attacked from outside. Committee of Lawyers view was that there was no such obligation. Committee on Amendments voted to retain Article 10. Canada has substituted new Article. (1921 and 1922 meetings summarized.) The Foreign Office recommend pressing for adoption of an interpretative resolution. Annexes 1-11 are Article 10, Canadian amendments, Interpretive Resolution and Amended First Para of Resolution proposed by First Committee of Assembly.

**GREAT BRITAIN: Cabinet Office 5
Committee of Imperial Defence
Colonial Defence Memoranda "C" Series
1902-1939**

In the creation of the Cabinet Office, the Committee of Imperial Defence acted as a catalyst. The Secretariat of the Committee of Imperial Defence was responsible for recording the minutes of that body from the time of the committee's inception in 1902 until 1914. The CID was an advisory body with no executive powers. With the assistance of numerous sub-committees it advised the Cabinet and government departments on both the general principles of defence policy and their detailed application. The Prime Minister was its Chairman and only permanent member. A permanent secretariat established in 1904 became the Cabinet Secretariat in 1916.

The Sub-Committee on Colonial (later Oversea) Defence was one of four permanent sub-committees of the CID. Most of the papers considered by the sub-committee ("C" series papers) would eventually go forward to the CID so that much of this material will be duplicated in CAB 8. These are typescript and printed memoranda.

CAB 5/1, Oct. 22 1902 - 28 May 1906

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/1	1-C to 40-C	B-6102

Subjects covered include: Malta, defence of; Bermuda, defence of; Aden, defence of; Natal, garrison of; New Zealand, proposed Imperial reserve; St. Lucia, value of as a naval base; South Africa, garrison of; Table Bay and Cape Town, defence of; Colonial defence; St. Helena, garrison of; Trincomalee, garrison of; Hong Kong, garrison of; Gibraltar and Malta,

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

infantry garrisons of; Malta, minimum strength of an expeditionary force against; West Indies; Australia. *Of particular relevant to Canada are the following:*

- < **Paper 2c: Esquimalt, standard of defence at:** memorandum by Intelligence Division (War Office), 24 May 1903. Recapitulates facts concerning history of Esquimalt. Reviews present defences - the inadequacy of the local militia, the Admiralty view that in war with United States, Esquimalt could not be defended and that it was not of strategic importance. It had little importance as a coaling station since there was no threat in the Pacific from other potential enemies, but there is an obligation to Canada. (9 pages)
- < **Paper 3c: Naval Bases of Halifax, Bermuda, Jamaica and St. Lucia, standard of defence for:** memorandum by Intelligence Division (War Office), September 17, 1903. Considers whether it would be possible to despatch “a sufficient naval force” from Europe to maintain sea supremacy in the Caribbean and Western Atlantic if Britain were simultaneously at war with the United States and a European power seeks clarification of apparent Admiralty view that they could not deploy fleet against United States and a European enemy at the same time, since the two-Power standard has been the basis of the War Office scale of defence. (8 pages)
- < **Paper 5c: Naval Bases of Halifax, Bermuda, Jamaica and St. Lucia.** Reply to No. 3c by Naval Intelligence Department, November 24, 1903. Reply to above, signed by Louis Battenburg. No additional land defences would make a difference if communications with the mother country were cut. (2 pages)
- < **Paper 7c: Halifax, adequacy of existing garrison to resist an attack by land.** Memorandum entitled “The Adequacy of the Existing Garrison and Defences of Halifax to resist an Attack by Land”, by Intelligence Division (War Office), December 11, 1903. It is considered doubtful if Canadian forces were capable at present of reinforcing Halifax if naval strength is insufficient to guarantee its security, or, if capable, whether the Colonial Government would not consider the security of the lakes and land frontier of more vital importance to the Dominion. (3 pages)
- < **Paper 10c: Outstanding War Office questions, Esquimalt, Halifax, Bermuda, and Egypt.** Memorandum by General Staff (War Office), March 25, 1904. Questions requiring early decisions. (2 pages)
- < **Paper 15c: Canada, defence of.** Memorandum by the General Staff (War

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Office), December 18, 1904. Discusses areas of conflict in the event of war with United States: East coast districts; Canada proper; Manitoba and North West; West Coast districts, and likely progress; relative strength of United States and Canadian military forces; request that consideration be given to the role of the Navy in protecting frontier and Great Lakes in the event, however improbable, of war with the United States (6 pages)

- < **Paper 17c: Halifax, transfer of defences to the Canadian Government.** Memorandum by Lord Minto, December 29, 1904. Suggests it would be necessary for Canada to add another battalion to permanent force, and Minto is doubtful that they could do it. Believes ideas of recruiting Imperial forces in Canada have been overrated. Halifax and Esquimalt offer excellent opportunity to utilize Canadian military material. Suggests retaining both under Imperial control but with command open to Canadian officers, and inviting Canada to raise additional battalion. (4 pages)
- < **Paper 19c: Colonial Defence.** Public statement of the Chairman of the Defence Committee of the Cabinet, December 3 1896. Public statement of the principles on which plans of Imperial defence were based. (2 pages)
- < **Paper 20c: Canadian Militia Act, 1904.** Remarks by the Colonial Defence Committee, January 25, 1905. Colonial Defence Committee sees no objections to Militia Act. (10 pages)
- < **Paper 21c: Canada, defence of.** Memorandum by the Admiralty, 24 February 1905. Considers United States naval power with that of other powers, and different status and role resulting in different deployment of ships: e.g., United States could safely deploy all her ships in the Western Atlantic. Analysis of reasons for development of United States navy - the United States would closely scrutinize any moves to increased military activity in Canada; role of Canadian Fishery Protection fleet; fortifications and mines; effect of freezing of the St. Lawrence; objections to stationing of torpedo craft and submarines in mouth of St. Lawrence. (18 pages).
- < **Paper 24c: Canada, defence of.** Remarks by the General Staff on the Admiralty Memorandum (21c), March 17 1905. The General Staff notes that their paper (15c) has had “the satisfactory effect of calling forth an exposition of Admiralty views, and has elicited the fact that the naval authorities appear to contemplate abandoning the tideway of the St. Lawrence, which the military authorities had regarded as virtually secure.” (3 pages).

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

- < **Paper 25c: Canada, defence of.** Remarks by the Admiralty on No. 24c, March 1905 (4 pages).
- < **Paper 26c: Halifax and Esquimalt, defence of.** Memoranda by the General Staff, March 31 1905 (4 pages) and the Colonial Defence Committee, May 31 1905.(5 pages). Further consideration of strategic conditions governing defence of Halifax and Esquimalt.
- < **Paper 29c: Halifax and Esquimalt, defence of.** Memoranda by the General Staff, March 31 1905 (4 pages) and the Colonial Defence Committee, May 31 1905 (5 pages). Further consideration of strategic conditions governing defence of Halifax and Esquimalt.
- < **Paper 30c: Canada, defence of.** Questions submitted by the General Staff, 7 June 1905. Regarding responsibilities of the Navy. (2 pages).
- < **Paper 33c: Relative Rank of the Officers of the British and Canadian Forces.**
I. Letter from the War office to the Colonial Office, 13 June 1905.
II. Telegram from the Colonial Office to the Governor General of Canada, dated 7 July 1905.
III. Telegram from the Governor General of Canada to the Colonial Office, 21 July 1905.
Relates to transfer of Halifax and Esquimalt; recommends recognition of Imperial Commissions of British officers serving with or in Canadian militia as enabling them to exercise command over Canadian troops, and that Canadian permanent and militia force ranks be recognized as equivalent to British ranks with requirement to pass the same educational tests. (5 pages)
- < **Paper 34c: Colonial Defence: The Defence of Colonial Ports.** Memorandum prepared by the Colonial Defence Committee and approved by the Committee of Imperial Defence, 2 August 1905. Strategic principles and some changes in classification of defended ports - general. (4 pages).

CAB 5/2, 29 May 1906 - 13 June 1911

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/2	41-C to 89-C	B-6102

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

List of documents, "C" Series, Papers 41 to 89, inclusive.

The papers cover similar topics as CAB 5/1, plus: representation of the Dominions on the CID; naval cooperation; Dominion ships of war; education and training. Subjects become more generally applicable. *Of particular relevance to Canada:*

- < **50C: Warships on the Great Lakes of North America.** Memorandum by the General Staff, 17 January 1908. "Naval command of the Great Lakes ... would be of grave importance to Canada in the event of war with the United States, and recent increases in the number and power of United States' war-vessels in these waters have inspired some anxiety in the Dominion." Includes appendix of armed vessels on the Great Lakes, 1907. (4 pages).

- < **52C: Warships on the Great Lakes of North America.** Note by the Secretary. Notes prepared for the Colonial Defence Committee, 8 May 1908 (12 pages).

- < **54C: The Liability of Defended Ports Abroad to Attack by Torpedo Craft.** Note by the Secretary. Memorandum by the Colonial Defence Committee, 2 June 1908 (5 pages).

CAB 5/3 11 April 1912 - 1 Aug. 1920

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/3	90-C to 130-C	B-6103

List of documents, "C" Series, papers 90 to 130, inclusive. For each paper, there is a title and subject, a description and origin of paper and a date.

New topics are: Treatment of Neutral and Enemy merchant ships in time of war - arrangements at British ports; representation of Dominions in CID; armaments of defended ports. Provision of long-range guns; control of aircraft; censorship, trading with the enemy; as well as Austrian attack on Cyprus; Imperial naval defence. Only three papers cover the war years: expedition against German East Africa; combined operations in foreign territory.

CAB 5/4, Feb. 1921 - 3 Oct. 1922

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/4	131-C to 180-C	B-6103

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

List of documents, "C" Series, papers 131 to 180, inclusive. For each paper, there is a title and subject, a description and origin of paper and a date.

New topics include: Empire naval policy and cooperation; air defence and suggested lines of development for Dominion Air Forces; suggested military subjects for inclusion in the agenda for the Imperial Cabinet; loans, attachments and interchanges of officers and other ranks between the various military forces of the Empire; the parts of the Air Force of the future in Imperial defence; Empire naval policy and cooperation; naval defence; the role of the Air Force in relation to the Army; military aspect of Imperial defence; Singapore; Anglo-Japanese alliance; reserves of oil fuel; Hong Kong; naval oil fuel reserves; Ascension Island; Air Force in relation to the Army and Navy; South Africa; air power and national security; South Persia oilfields; alternative to a Ministry of Defence; Washington Conference and its effect upon Empire naval policy and cooperation; scales of seaborne attack, against which provision should be made at British ports at home and abroad; coast defence: forms of attack and forms of defence.

CAB 5/5, 28 Nov. 1922 - Dec. 1922

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/5	181-C to 184-C	B-6103

There is no list of documents (index). **There is a note that the writing in this volume is too closely bound into the volume to reproduce in its entirety.*

These papers cover Hong Kong, Singapore, oil.

CAB 5/6, 17 Sept. 1925 - 19 Jan. 1928

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/6	251-C to 310-C	B-6104

List of documents, papers 251-C to 310-C, inclusive. For each paper, there is a title and subject, a description and origin of paper, and a date.

New topics are: Spanish proposals for an exchange of Gibraltar for Ceuta; The Defence of Ports at Home and Abroad; Section II - Australian ports/Section III - New Zealand; Palestine, Kenya, Malta, Gibraltar; Articles of Agreement for a Treaty between Great Britain and Ireland; reduction and limitation of armaments; long-distance wireless telegraphy; Imperial Conference (Foreign Policy and Defence) Sub-Committee; general organization for war; constitution and regulations of the Overseas Defence Committee; The Defence of Ports at

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Home and Abroad. Order of Priority for Installation of armaments; colonial wireless system.

CAB 5/7, 28 Jan. 1928 - 25 Sept. 1934

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/7	311-C to 400-C	B-6104

List of documents, papers 311-C to 400-C, inclusive. For each paper, there is a title and subject, a description and origin of paper, and a date.

Similar topics. *Of particular relevance to Canada is the following:*

< **333c:Esquimalt: use as a naval base in time of war.** Note by the Secretary, covering copy of correspondence between the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada, 23 May 1929. Relates to naval stations in the North Atlantic and the West Indies.

CAB 5/8, 8 Sept. 1934 - 18 July 1938

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/8	401-C to 470-C	B-6105

List of documents, papers 401-C to 470-C, inclusive. For each paper, there is a title and subject, a description and origin of paper, and a date.

Similar topics related to colonial defence.

CAB 5/9, 2 Mar. 1938 - Aug. 1939

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 5/9	471-C to 514-C	B-6105

List of documents, papers 471-C to 514-C, inclusive. For each paper, there is a title and subject, a description and origin of paper, and a date.

Area-specific papers. *Of particular relevance to Canada is the following:*

< **500c: Defence Schemes. Notification of Precautionary and War Measures.** Memorandum by the Overseas Defence Committee, 1 June 1939 (with some telegrams). (34 pages).

CAB 8/6, 20 Jan. 1913 - 17 Feb. 1922
Committee of Imperial Defence
Colonial/Overseas Defence Committee Memoranda
“M” Series
1913-1939

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 8/6	456-M to 504-M	B-6106

Total of 243 pages, bound volume. Includes index to all the Memoranda issued between 7 April 1885 and 17 Feb. 1922, i.e., 1-M to 504-M.

Material includes a wide range of topics and geographic locations, e.g., appointment of officers, defence of colonies, including fixed defences, strength of garrisons and reorganization of local forces, oil storage, treatment of neutral and enemy shipping; in Aden, Australia, India, Jamaica, Straits Settlements, St. Helena, Gibraltar, South Africa, Malta, Mauritius, Falkland Islands, British Guiana, Fiji, Gambia, West Indies, British Honduras, Kenya and Uganda, Singapore, Trinidad. There is little of specific Canadian interest but many of the memoranda have general application to the Empire or several Dominions or colonies, e.g., regulations to be introduced in the U.K. and recommended to other governments. Examples of such memoranda are provided below.

- < **456M: Restrictions on use of British Ports abroad by Foreign ships.** Revises 365M; revised by 500M, 20 Jan. 1913. Clarification of regulations empowering port authorities to prohibit use of searchlights and taking of soundings by foreign vessels. (3 pages)
- < **463M: The Treatment of Neutral and Enemy Merchant Ships in time of war** (approved by Committee of Imperial Defence as 100.C). 25 Mar. 1913.
- < **464M: Control of Aircraft** (CID 104-C), 5 Aug. 1913. Measures taken in the U.K. to control aircraft to protect against espionage in peace and war and aerial bombardment because of rapid developments in aviation. These arrangements to be taken as a guide by the overseas dominions, where different conditions prevail (10 pages).
- < **468M: Overseas Defence**, 25 June 1913. Concerns division of responsibility between War Office, Admiralty and police authorities for protection of vulnerable points and dispute between Admiralty and War Office about application in time of emergency. With specific reference to Malta, but has

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

wider significance.

- < **470M: Trading with the Enemy** (CID 105.c), 20 Oct. 1913. Consideration of general policy in the event of war - what will be permitted, what prohibited and action to be taken by Dominion governments. Includes appendices - historical background papers, lists of prohibited stores, proclamations. (135 pages).
- < **471M: Postal Censorship** (CID 106-C), 3 Mar. 1914. Need for secret postal censorship, during precautionary stage as well as in time of war. Measures for the U.K. and other strategic areas overseas. Statutory powers should be sought where it is reasonably probable they may be required. (3 pages).
- < **472M: Press Censorship** (CID 107-C), 3 Mar. 1914. Contains agreement reached by Admiralty and War Office with the Press. Suggests general considerations to be taken into account where censorship may have to be established. Reference to a detailed scheme having already been prepared in one of the Dominions. (4 pages).
- < **477M: Storage of Oil at Overseas British Ports**, 20 May 1914. Guidelines for providing storage facilities for oil to safeguard the supply and ensure safety of other materials in case of fire by enemy attack. (3 pages).
- < **478M: Probable scales of attack against oversea British ports**, 25 Mar. 1914. Review of probable scales of attack on British territory. In particular, refers to CID policies with regard to defences of Halifax and West Indies which have been based on possibility of a war with the U.S. Asks whether this possibility need any longer be taken into consideration. Also proposed is provision of torpedo boats and submarines for local defence in place of fixed defence. Appendix sets out assumptions on which existing defences are based. (8 pages).
- < **479M: Newfoundland, control of Aircraft, 10 June 1914.** Covering draft Bill to Control Aircraft in Newfoundland in response to request from Governor. Attack or espionage not thought likely, therefore it would not be necessary to do more than obtain statutory powers to control aircraft if it became necessary. 2 pages.
- < **482M: War Cabinet**
483M: War Cabinet. Oversea Defence Revision of Defence Schemes;
489M: Oversea Defence Committee. Storage of Oil Fuel and Light Petroleum Products at Overseas British Ports;
498M: Oversea Defence. Civil Flying in the Vicinity of Defended Ports Overseas;

500M: Restrictions on use of British Ports abroad by Foreign ships.

**CAB 8/7, 1919-1920
Committee of Imperial Defence
Colonial/Overseas Defence Committee Memoranda
“ODC” Series, Volume 1**

Volume	Pages	Reel Numbers
Cab 8/7	1-52, “ODC” Series	B-6106 & B-6107

These are all Notes for Committee from Secretary, referring to memoranda listed under CAB 8/6. Of general Commonwealth interest. *Of particular relevance to Canada are the following:*

- < **3. Revision of Defence Schemes, including Halifax.** 12 Feb. 1919, 3 pages.

- < **14. Oiling Stations for British men-of-war and merchant ships abroad,** 12 May 1919. Includes proposals for Halifax and Montreal and a new provision for 50,000 tons of fuel to be kept at Vancouver. (6 pages). (reels B-6106 and B-6107)

**CAB 8/8, 1920-1922
Committee of Imperial Defence
Colonial/Overseas Defence Committee Memoranda
“ODC” Series, Volume 2**

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 8/8	1-100	B-6107

Memoranda addressed to the Secretary, Overseas Defence Committee. Of general Commonwealth interest. Topics covered include disposal of surplus naval guns, principles of imperial defence affecting overseas Dominions and colonies, visits of foreign aircraft to British possessions overseas, air navigation -prohibited areas, restrictions on the use of British ports abroad by submarines, collection of intelligence by American consular officers, revision of defence schemes, term to distinguish between forces raised in the United Kingdom and in the rest of the Empire. *Of particular relevance for Canada are the following:*

- < **ODC 2: Defence of Cable Landing Places,** 1 Mar. 1920. From Admiralty, listing locations, including places in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Vancouver. (4 pages)

- < **ODC 87: Use of Wireless for Official Telegrams, 5 September 1995.**
Enclosing minutes of a War Office meeting discussing military aspects of competition of Imperial Wireless Chain. The United States will intercept all England-Cairo and England-Canada messages. Japan will be able to intercept all the Pacific traffic, i.e., between Canada - Hong Kong - Australia and New Zealand.(4 pages).

CAB 8/9, 1922-1926
Committee of Imperial Defence
Colonial/Overseas Defence Committee Memoranda
“ODC” Series, Volume 3

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 8/9	101-120	B-6107

These papers cover a similar range of topics, plus extension of Royal Naval Reserve Movement to Crown colonies and protectorates, the constitution of the committee, local defence forces, merchant vessels, reserves of ammunition in the Dominions and colonies. Of general interest to Commonwealth countries. *Of particular relevance to Canada are the following:*

- < **ODC 101: Anti-Aircraft Equipment for Lewis Guns**, 2 Mar. 1922. Includes Newfoundland. Note by the Air Staff on the scale of air attack to which colonies are exposed. (3 pages). (reel B-6107)

CAB 16/111
Committee of Imperial Defence
Ad Hoc Sub-Committees, 1905-1939
Defence Requirements: Volume III

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 16/111	340 pages, bound	B-6108

Preceded by a list of papers, e.g., C.P. 70, including number, topics, and date. Topics as before, but including preparations for 1935 Naval Conference. Includes C.P. 78, 1934 regarding the attitude of the Dominions in regard to the termination in 1921 of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance with historical note prepared in the Dominions Office. There is also a draft report on preparations for the 1935 naval conference (NCM 35).

CAB 16/112
Committee of Imperial Defence
Defence Requirements Sub-Committee

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
---------------	--------------	--------------------

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Cab 16/112

380 pages, approx.

B-6108

List of proceedings, i.e., minutes of meetings, 1935; list of memoranda, with paper no. (DRC), subject and date, 1935; Appendices, 1935-1936.

Committee of Imperial Defence. Defence Requirements: Programmes of the Defence Services. Note by the Secretary, 2 March 1936;

Committee of Imperial Defence, Sub-Committee on Defence Policy and Requirements. Programmes of the Defence Services, Report. (D.P.R. (D.R.) 9). Printed for the Committee of Imperial Defence, Feb. 1936.

Committee of Imperial Defence. Defence Requirements Sub-Committee, Programmes of the Defence Services, Third Report, Volume 1, 21 November 1935 (D.R.C. 37). This report includes a paragraph on the Dominions, namely that their attention should be directed to the measures contemplated; that the Air Force have made provision for equipping 16 squadrons from the Dominions on the basis that the most useful assistance from the Dominions would be provision of personnel for a certain number of squadrons; the War Office were unable to estimate requirements for land forces from the Dominions.

Committee of Imperial Defence. Defence Requirements Sub-Committee, Volume II, 21 Nov. 1935. Schedules to Third Report, schedules 1,2,3,4 and 5: Naval defence requirements, Army defence requirements, Royal Air Force defence requirements, Army Defence requirements, Air Raid precautions requirements.

Also minutes of D.R.C., 11 July to 14 November 1935, and memoranda on: expansion of German and Japanese forces, programme to meet deficiencies in defence services, visit to Germany by head of military operations and intelligence, munitions, labour.

CAB 16/143

Committee of Imperial Defence Sub-Committee on Defence Policy and Requirements DPR Memoranda

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 16/143	DPR 251 - DPR 300	B-6109

Documents printed for the Committee of Imperial Defence, Sub-Committee on Defence Policy and Requirements. Includes D.P.R. 262, of 29 March 1938, entitled **Supply of Munitions from Canada and the United States of America**, memorandum by the Minister for Co-

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

ordination of Defence, discussing the desirability of establishing sources of armaments in Canada prior to and during a war, and including a letter from Canadian Car and Foundry Company, offering services as manufacturer of airplanes and munitions (4 pages).
Partial list of contents of the class, including DPR number, subject and contents, and date.

CAB 16/183A
Committee of Imperial Defence
D.P.(P.) Series, Mar. 1938 - July 1939, Vol. II

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 16/183A	21 to 69	B-6109

List of papers 21 to 69, inclusive. Includes no. of paper, title and subject of documents, description and origin of paper, and its date.

Reports and memoranda on such topics as: the organization of the Army for its role in war; military implications of German aggression against Czechoslovakia, planning for war with Germany; staff conversations with France and Belgium; defence expenditure in future years; location of government departments in time of war; maintenance of the advanced air striking force on the continent; appreciation of the situation in the event of war against Germany; and others, largely on the European situation, prepared by chiefs of staff, committees and ministers. *Of particular relevance for Canada is the following:*

< **DP(P) 54: The Position of the Dominions in the Event of War.** Memorandum by the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, 5 May 1939, 13 pages. A paper prepared in collaboration with the FO and Service departments. Copies to be sent to High Commissioners in Canada and South Africa for their guidance should those Dominions show "reluctance to immediate participation" in a war in which the U.K. was engaged. The High Commissioners are to do nothing to show that such a possibility has been contemplated. Government War Book was drawn up on the hypothesis of a war that would demand the employment of the whole resources of the British Commonwealth and on the assumption that the Dominion Governments would decide to associate themselves with the action taken by the U.K. government. However, indications have been received that in the case of Canada, South Africa and Eire, this assumption might not be justified. Discusses need of Canadian Parliament to be consulted before Canada could participate in any war, and likely delays if Parliament were not in session.

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Reports speech of the Justice Minister examining the possibility of Canada remaining neutral. Similarly, the likely position of South Africa and Eire are considered. The general policy to be adopted is to ensure that no Dominion Government formally declares neutrality, but at worst adopts "an attitude equivalent to non-active participation", while affording facilities to U.K. and denying them to an enemy. Continues to consider forms of Dominion cooperation and likely attitudes of the Dominions; establishment of certain naval services, e.g., naval intelligence, naval control and contraband control services; use of ports by U.K. warships; use of aerodromes and air facilities; supply of munitions, raw materials and food stuffs; detention and seizure of enemy shipping and aircraft; censorship; internment of enemy civilians; prohibition of trading with the enemy and control of imports and exports; calling up of U.K. reservists and pensioners; use for U.K. purposes of Dominion-registered vessels and aircraft; use of ports for fitting out auxiliary vessels for the Royal Navy; non-exercise of powers and wider Canadian Foreign Enlistment Act as it affects joining U.K. forces; and the continuance and expansion of training arrangements in Dominion of personnel for entry into U.K. forces.

CAB 99/1

War Cabinet

**Visits of Dominions Ministers and of a Representative from India
1939**

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 99/1	169 pages	B-6110

Meetings: discussion of procedure; foreign policy situation; Russia's intention towards Finland; relations between Germany and Italy; the Russo-German pact and its effect in Canada; financial situation (included in this discussion was the extent to which Canada was willing and able to come to Britain's assistance; Sir John Gilmur's exposition of the Ministry of Shipping's problems and Japanese policy in the Far East, and a number of other international matters. Canada was represented by T.A. Crerar, Minister of Mines and Resources, Vincent Massey, High Commissioner in London, Hume Wrong, Permanent delegate of Canada to the League of Nations, and Lester Pearson, official secretary, Office of the High Commissioner in London.

CAB 99/2

War Cabinet

**Visits of Ministers from Dominions and of a Representative from India
1939**

Great Britain. Cabinet Office records (MG 41, Cab 4,5,8,16,99)

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 99/2	283 pages	B-6110

Meetings: topics discussed included proposal to restrict the imports of Canadian tobacco, pears and apples into Great Britain; Canadian wheat shipment to the U.K.; discussion between officials regarding the despatch of Canadian military forces overseas; U.S. trade with neutrals; suspect traders in U.S.; control of Canadian nickel exports; intelligence regarding neutral traders; control of enemy export trade; command and organization of Canadian military forces; general policy in relation to Canadian shipping requirements; Canadian Air forces; Canadian war finances.

CAB 99/15
Commonwealth Committee on Munitions Assignment 1942
Meetings

Volume	Pages	Reel Number
Cab 99/15	283 pages	B-6110

Much discussion on relations between the Combined Munitions Assignment Board and the War Production Board; review of the Production programme; rubber; spare parts for aircraft; combined munitions assignments Canada, New Zealand, Australia; assignment of radio equipment.