

SECRET

Ottawa, May 5, 1943

MUTUAL AID – PARTICIPATION IN THIRD PROTOCOL WITH THE U.S.S.R.

11. The secretary reported further developments since this matter had last been discussed.

The United Kingdom, the United States, and the U.S.S.R. were agreeable to Canadian participation in the protocol. Officials of the departments principally concerned had considered U.S. and U.K. drafts of the instrument and were in general agreement as to the form of Canadian adherence. Consideration had also been given, with British and American authorities, to the items to be included in a Canadian schedule.

Financial arrangements and possibly shipping arrangements would require special provisions in so far as Canada was concerned. Special provision might have to be made in a Canadian schedule in respect of wheat and flour. Other items likely to be included would be industrial equipment and machine tools, explosives, aluminum and nickel.

It was proposed that, at an early date, a statement should be made, preferably in the House, with regard to Canadian participation in the forthcoming protocol.

The administrative officer designate of the Board, Mr. Karl Fraser, was proceeding with preparation of a proposed list of Canadian items to be included, up to a suggested value of some \$75 million, in consultation with other interested officials.

(External Affairs memorandum, May 3, 1943, and attached documents).

12. The War Committee, after discussion, noted the Secretary's report and referred for decision to the members-designate of the Canadian War Supplies Allocation Board the conditions of Canadian participation in the protocol. It was agreed, in this connection, that the Prime Minister make a statement in the House of Commons at an early date.