

FINAL EDITION.

DEFENCE CONFERENCE, 1939.

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D.C.S. 5.

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19th April, 1939.

**SECRET.**

Notes of Proceedings of the Fifth Day of  
Meeting of the Defence Conference, held  
on Wednesday, 19th April, 1939.

PRESENT:

NEW ZEALAND.

Delegates.

Hon. P. Fraser.  
Hon. W. Nash.  
Hon. F. Jones.  
Major-General J. E. Duigan, C.B., D.S.O.  
Commodore H.E. Horan, D.S.C., R.N.  
Group-Captain H.W.L. Saunders, M.C., D.F.C., M.M.  
Group-Captain T.M. Wilkes, C.B.E., M.C.  
C.A. Berendsen, Esq., C.M.G.  
B.C. Ashwin, Esq.  
L.J. Schmitt, Esq.  
Lt.-Col. W.G. Stevens.

Advisers.

Commander A.B. Fanshawe, R.N.  
Colonel O.H. Mead, D.S.O.  
Group-Captain L.M. Isitt, R.N.Z.A.F.  
Wing-Commander A. de T. Nevill, R.N.Z.A.F.  
T.A. Barrow, Esq.  
A.R.F. Mackay, Esq.  
J.R. Middleton, Esq.  
Squadron Leader E.A. Gibson.

Secretariat.

Lt.-Col. W.G. Stevens.  
Lt.-Commander T. Ellis, R.N.  
Captain D.T. Maxwell, N.Z.S.C.  
Sqn.Ldr. E.M.F. Grundy, R.A.F.  
F. Shanahan, Esq.  
H.G. Nicholls, Esq.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Delegates.

Sir Harry Batterbee, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.  
Sir Harry Luke, K.C.M.G.  
Vice-Admiral Sir Ragnar Colvin, K.B.E., C.B., R.N.  
Major-General P.J. Mackesy, C.B., D.S.O., M.C.  
Air-Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore, K.C.B., D.S.O.

Advisers.

Captain W.D. McN. Graham.  
Major A.H. Stafford.  
H.H. Vaskess, Esq., O.B.E.  
Lt.F.R.J. Nicholls R.A.

Secretariat.

G.E. Boyd Shannon, Esq.  
N.E. Costar, Esq.

AUSTRALIA.

Delegates.

Vice Admiral Sir Ragnar Colvin, K.B.E., C.B.R.N.  
Colonel V.A.H. Sturdee, C.B.E., D.S.O.  
Wing-Commander G. Jones, D.F.C., R.A.A.F.  
Captain E.C. Johnston, D.F.C.

Adviser.

Commander J.C.D. Esdaile, R.A.N.

Secretariat.

Paymaster Captain J.B. Foley, O.B.E., R.A.N.

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The Conference assembled at 10 a.m. and discussed the procedure to be followed for the day. It was agreed that Committee 1 should meet forthwith, and Committees 2 and 3 at 2.30 p.m.

SIR ARTHUR LONGMORE asked if it would be possible to arrive at a forecast of the time-table for Conference meetings.

MR. FRASER said that if the Air Committee's and Supply Committee's reports could be disposed of by Friday, the Strategical Committee's report could be left until Monday.

MR. NASH said that it would be desirable if Friday's discussion could end at midday, and an adjournment be taken until Monday morning.

There was general agreement to this. SIR HARRY BATTERBEE suggested that it would be very appropriate if the date of the Conference reports could be that of Anzac Day.

COLONEL STEVENS said that the Press were very anxious to get a photograph. MR FRASER said that it had better be left until Thursday or Friday.

The Conference adjourned at 10.10 a.m.

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