

**Records of the
Cabinet, Foreign Office,
Treasury and Other
Records**

SOURCES FOR COLONIAL STUDIES IN THE
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Volume 2

Records of the
**Cabinet, Foreign Office,
Treasury and Other Records**

ANNE THURSTON

*A revised and expanded version of
Public Record Office Handbook No 3:
Records of the Colonial and Dominions Offices
by R B Pugh*



PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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INTRODUCTION

This guide is published as a companion volume in the British Documents on End of Empire Project and as a Public Record Office handbook. The first handbook in the series, *Records of the Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Commonwealth Relations Office and Commonwealth Office*, describes the work and records of the departments primarily responsible for the administrative arrangements for handling Britain's relations with dependent territories. This second volume seeks to extend the researcher's awareness of the involvement of other departments of state in colonial affairs, and of the relevant records they produced, during the twentieth century. Although the description which follows emphasises colonial aspects of British policy, researchers should be aware that, given the nature of the records concerned, the remit of the volume is considerably larger than that of the first. Britain's position as a world power, with a range of economic, political and strategic commitments and priorities, constitutes a central concern of the records now described. The records of empire in its broadest sense - informal as well as formal - are thus the focus of the volume. Commissioned to coincide with the period covered by the series A and B volumes in the first stage (1925-1957) of BDEEP, the volume is concerned mainly with that period. Its contents are, however, useful in identifying earlier and later material; many of the record classes described cover much longer periods.

A substantial part of the handbook is concerned with the records of the Cabinet. While the colonies were not consistently on the Cabinet agenda, a considerable amount of time was taken up with colonial issues, particularly after the Second World War. The records of the Cabinet and its committees provide a key to evolving ministerial and official attitudes to colonial affairs, and to the involvement of the various departments. Compilers of the guide have cut through the time-consuming task of using existing finding aids to Cabinet memoranda and committee papers by identifying material relevant to colonial affairs, and have described the records of some 500 committees and sub-committees. The Cabinet committees are described in a chronological list, providing an overview of the growth of Cabinet involvement in colonial affairs, and an alphabetical master list which provides more detailed information including covering dates and the names of ministers and officials involved.

A briefer chapter examines the role of the Prime Minister's Office. Until the Second World War the Prime Minister's involvement with the colonies was limited to a few highly topical subjects such as policy relating to the naval base at Singapore, German claims for the return of former colonies, and the situation in Palestine. After the war the Office reviewed the potential contribution of the colonies to the crucial balance of payments question, and took an ongoing interest in financial issues affecting the colonies. It also became involved in political, defence and security issues, for instance the emergency in Kenya, and in preparations for decolonization.

The developing role of the Foreign Office in colonial affairs, in the face of mounting international criticism of British policy and the rise in nationalist agitation for independence,

is also described. The amount of Foreign Office documentation relative to colonial affairs grows significantly from the 1930s to the 1940s, and increases markedly in the 1950s. The records become a key source for the study of colonial policy, particularly for the Middle East, Asia and Africa. They have, however, tended to be underused, partly because of their daunting bulk and partly because researchers more familiar with the records of the Colonial and Dominions Offices have lacked knowledge of departmental responsibilities and hence of where to locate information. The guide describes the growth of the relevant Foreign Office departments, traces departmental responsibility for each country and region, and provides summaries of the relevant record classes.

Records of the Treasury cover the whole range of business of the British government, and are essential in tracing the development and implementation of colonial policy. Arising from the Treasury's responsibility to comment upon and approve all financial matters affecting the colonies, its files include extensive documentation on a broad range of topics such as loans and grants; medical, education and agricultural projects; and appointments and staffing structures. Files also illustrate debates on financial priorities, and on the relationship of the UK to the colonies and of the colonies to one another. While there is no dramatic increase in the quantity of Treasury records relating to colonial affairs as there is in the case of Foreign Office records, with the changing nature of the Treasury's role, and particularly with the growing importance of the interdepartmental committee system, the records become increasingly significant. By describing administrative arrangements within the Treasury as they evolved during the period of the study, analysing changing registry practices, and summarising the contents of relevant series, the handbook minimises the complexities of using the records.

As well as this detailed coverage of the records of the Cabinet, Prime Minister's Office, Foreign Office and Treasury, a chapter is included which lists the major records series relevant to certain aspects of colonial studies among the records of departments such as the Admiralty, the Air Ministry and Ministry of Aviation, the Board of Trade, the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Labour.

Records of interdepartmental committees are also covered. The interdepartmental committee structure offers a useful window into government policy and its implementation. There was a noticeable decrease in the number of standing advisory committees during and after the war, and a dramatic growth in the number of more utilitarian and productive technical committees as the government increasingly relied on them to evaluate the economic and technical ramifications of its policies. Despite these changes there was one constant: the inclusion of the Treasury on the great majority of the committees. Interdepartmental records are not easy to trace; they are scattered through the records of the departments concerned. An extensive search has identified the papers of about 150 of the committees and they have been described in terms of their activities and colonial interests and their composition.

During the period 1925-1957, and particularly in the post-war period, there was also a considerable growth in the number of international organisations which became involved in colonial affairs. Records concerning Britain's involvement with about 200 of the more

important international organisations have been traced, and their objectives and involvement with British colonial policy have been described. Neither this list, nor that describing records of international conferences concerned with colonial affairs, is exhaustive, but they provide readers with a starting point for locating additional material.

This volume has been compiled with a grant from the Economic and Social Research Council, and with additional support from the British Academy, under the direction and supervision of Dr Anne Thurston, honorary research fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies in the University of London. Thanks go to the members of the research team who contributed so much to its completion: Dr Kweku Ampiah, Anita Burdett, Dr Augustus Caseley-Hayford, Sara Corrigan, Irungu Houghton, Sasha Newman, Dr Aderemi Oyewumi, Victoria Pasley, and Dr Janet Topp-Fargion.

CHAPTER 1

OVERVIEW OF CABINET MACHINERY AND INVOLVEMENT IN COLONIAL/IMPERIAL AFFAIRS

1.1 THE ROLE OF THE CABINET

1.1.1 Growth of the Cabinet System

The Cabinet's major function is its responsibility for formulating, directing and defending government policies. Its members are appointed by the prime minister. They are ministers who act as political heads of the major departments of state, though ministers without portfolio may be included. Non-Cabinet ministers are sometimes called upon to attend meetings when issues affecting their departments are under discussion. Ministers are individually responsible for their departments and collectively responsible for government policies as a whole. In addition to its main function, the Cabinet is also the final arbiter in interdepartmental disputes, a role which it performs through a system of Cabinet committees.

The Cabinet owes its origin to the struggle for power between sovereign and parliament. Its emergence in the seventeenth century was largely due to the need for ministers to agree on policy, and to present a united front in their deliberations with the sovereign. Since its inception the Cabinet has changed little in substance and by the beginning of the nineteenth century the structure of the modern Cabinet system was visible. Thereafter the Cabinet's position was further strengthened and transformed by the extension of the franchise and the evolution of the political parties.

Prior to the First World War it was normal for the Cabinet to include most ministers. There was no permanent Cabinet secretary, no formal preparatory agenda and little record was kept of discussion. Only the field of defence was considered to require co-ordinated administration. By [1904] the Committee of Imperial Defence (see Sections 1.3.1 and 2.3) had been reconstructed as an advisory committee to the Cabinet with a small secretariat of its own.

In 1916 two developments occurred in the Cabinet system. Firstly, a small War Cabinet was established with the effect that most ministers attended only those meetings at which matters relating to their departments were being considered. Secondly, the CID secretariat was adapted to a War Cabinet secretariat. In 1920 the Treasury placed the Cabinet Office, of which the secretariat was the central core, on a permanent footing, and gradually it came to underpin the structure of the Cabinet system. The Cabinet secretariat, which is described in detail in Section 1.3, developed regular procedures for Cabinet business and kept its records.

The size of Cabinet grew steadily with the establishment of new departments. From the 1920s an increasing number of departments were not represented directly in Cabinet.

During the Second World War Cabinet membership was reduced to seven or eight ministers who made urgent day-to-day decisions, controlled resources and formulated strategies. Meetings were frequent and irregular, and the volume of work increased significantly. The Chiefs of Staff (see

Section 1.3.6) and large numbers of other officials and ministers were called in for consultation as necessary.

After the war more new ministries were created and Cabinet was again expanded. At the same time it met more frequently. Whereas before 1914 it met about forty times a year, increasing to about sixty in the inter-war period, the number averaged ninety times or more after 1950.

The growing range of business in which government became involved and the need to co-ordinate policy led to the extension of the Cabinet committee structure. This allowed Cabinet to concentrate primarily on resolving issues and authorizing decisions, while committees carried out the more time-consuming work of assembling the necessary information and formulating policy. The committee system is described in Section 1.2. With the development of this more weighty administrative system of government there was an increasing tendency for influential members of the Cabinet to seek resolution through informal or personal meetings with the prime minister.

Fuller details will be found in Public Record Office Handbooks: 4 *List of Cabinet Papers 1880-1914* (London, 1964); 9 *List of Cabinet Papers 1915 and 1916* (1966); 11 *The Records of the Cabinet Office to 1922* (London, 1966); and 17 *The Cabinet Office to 1945* (London, 1975).

1.1.2 Cabinet Memoranda and Conclusions

Issues requiring consideration by Cabinet reached it in the form of memoranda, either from a Cabinet member or through the committee system. Normally they were circulated before a Cabinet meeting. The inclusion of items on the agenda of a Cabinet meeting was at the discretion of the prime minister. While ministers had unrestricted rights, exercised at their own discretion, to submit any issue of concern, it was understood that questions involving more than one department should first be examined interdepartmentally.

Standard Cabinet memoranda consist of an explanation of the issue, with an indication of the relevant considerations, an outline of possible solutions and a recommendation from the submitting department for the course of action to be taken. Occasionally, memoranda were prepared merely for information purposes or to report on progress already under Cabinet consideration.

Cabinet minutes, called conclusions after 1919, summarize the main points of the discussion and provide a record of attendance. From 1939 a table of contents was compiled. The conclusions were prepared by the Cabinet secretary, who circulated them to all present at the meeting and to the sovereign. When necessary, additional copies were sent to the permanent heads of Treasury, Foreign Office and Chiefs of Staff. Extracts were sent to non-Cabinet ministers on matters that concerned them.

1.1.3 Cabinet Involvement in Colonial/Imperial Affairs

An examination of colonial issues that reached Cabinet by memoranda will indicate the concerns which occupied the government at the highest level and how they were approached - politically, administratively and economically.

In the period under consideration the Cabinet took a consistent interest in broad questions of colonial administration and policy. In the late 1920s and the 1930s it took a particular interest in closer union between territories in various regions. Plans were put forward for the federation of Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland and for a closer union between Kenya, Tanganyika, Zanzibar and Uganda. Such a solution was also examined for the West Indies in 1933 and 1934. The question arose again after the war and from 1955 in regard to the establishment of the Federation of Malaya and the Central African Federation.

Constitutional issues were discussed regularly, starting with Ceylon in 1928 and 1929 and coming under scrutiny again during the war. Constitutional questions concerning Jamaica, Malaya and Malta were also examined during the war years. The constitution and administration of Malta were considered throughout the 1930s and in 1955 a claim was made for Maltese representation in parliament at Westminster. However, it was not until after the war and especially in the early 1950s that constitutional issues really came to the fore in Cabinet discussion. Constitutional changes for Zanzibar, Hong Kong, Singapore, Gold Coast and Nigeria were proposed during this time.

Before the war, the Cabinet was concerned with the territories' contribution towards the cost of imperial defence. The Singapore naval base was another major pre-war concern. In the years immediately prior to the war other specific defence issues were examined, such as the defence of Ceylon and Penang. During the war, the only defence issues raised were those that could not be dealt with by the Chiefs of Staff. These included measures required in the Far East and the threat of the Japanese southward movement, the East Africa campaign of 1940 to 1941, the possibility of US bases in the West Indies and operations in South West Pacific. The Cabinet was, however, kept well informed on the war developments through monthly reports on the colonies prepared by the secretary of state for the colonies and on mandated territories by the minister of supply.

Middle East questions related mainly to Iraq and Palestine. The Baghdad-Haifa pipeline-railway was discussed in the late 1920s and early 1930s. During the 1930s questions of Britain's position in Iraq were raised when Iraq was admitted into the League of Nations. British policy in Palestine was of major concern during the 1930s and a large part of the 1940s until the establishment of Israel as an independent state.

Colonial development was another recurrent theme. In the late 1920s the Cabinet discussed the possibility of relieving the domestic unemployment problem by developing colonial markets. Development issues were raised again in 1940 when a statement on policy on colonial development, welfare and research was examined. The war delayed action but these matters were followed up at the end of the war when the colonies were seen as valuable sources of food and raw materials.

Specific issues regarding raw materials and food were raised periodically. In the early 1930s the need to develop resources in the colonies was acknowledged and the sugar, rubber and tin industries were examined. After the war, with the emphasis on reconstruction and development, food and raw material issues came up again. The world food shortage caused Cabinet to examine such subjects as: the Groundnut Scheme in East Africa; obtaining cocoa from West Africa; rice supply problems; the International Wheat Agreement (1949); and the work of the Overseas Food Corporation. In the

early 1950s the Volta River Aluminium Scheme and the International Tin Agreement were considered.

Communication questions were discussed before and after the war. In 1928 the Cabinet examined the issue of cable and wireless systems in the West Indies and the government policy to be adopted at the Imperial Wireless and Cable Conference of that year. This was tied into the concern felt by the Committee of Imperial Defence over the effectiveness of empire communication systems. From 1951 the Cabinet examined overseas information services, looking at the report of the Drogheda Committee on Overseas Information in 1953 and 1954.

Trade and finance issues were not raised to any great extent at Cabinet level but were largely handled by committees.

1.2 CABINET COMMITTEES

1.2.1 The Growth of the Cabinet Committee System

The First World War generated the basis for an elaborate committee system. From this time onward each administration formed its own committees according to its needs. Often they set up committees to handle the same subjects but with altered membership and terms of reference (see Section 2.3). Not until 1935 did any committee, other than the Home Affairs Committee, continue from one administration to the next. In fact, during the inter-war years most of the committees appointed were ad hoc, set up to deal with a particular problem, and terminated in a relatively short time when reports had been made to the Cabinet or a final decision had been reached.

It was not until the middle of the Second World War that there was a successful attempt to create a co-ordinated internal committee structure whereby particular categories of issues were regularly referred to the same group of ministers. The need to improvise and adapt to unforeseen events led to the evolution of a complex system of standing committees which continued in peacetime. Thereafter, successive Cabinets have been characterized by comprehensive systems of standing and ad hoc committees.

In theory ad hoc committees were intended to have a relatively short life, whereas standing committees were appointed to deal with broader or recurrent issues that were anticipated to last the lifetime of a government. In practice, however, there was frequently little difference either in duty or direction between the two types of committee. Many ad hoc committees exercised long-term duties. Both types of committee were supported by working parties, which were appointed to collect and assemble information for a particular committee but had no role in debating or formulating policy.

Before 1939 committee membership tended to be limited to ministers, although there was an increasing tendency for ministers to be accompanied to meetings by officials. From the early days of the war double decker committees began to be appointed, one of ministers and one of officials, from the same departments. Ministerial committees continued the task of formulating and debating policy. Official committees, composed of permanent secretaries and other officials, had narrower

terms of reference and were essentially responsible to ministerial committees. They assembled and organized material and took decisions on executing policy, but they were unable to make policy.

1.2.2 The Role of Cabinet Committees

Issues raised in Cabinet were likely to pass to the committee stage if the matter could not be resolved without further consideration. The committees were usually appointed by the prime minister or by Cabinet itself as a forum for ministers to put forward their points of view, find solutions to problems, focus on issues and make policy. The terms of reference, composition and title were set out in a memorandum which generally formed the first document in the committee's papers.

Membership of the committees was irregular but included ministers of all departments with a major interest in the issue whether or not they were members of Cabinet. Generally the prime minister was the chairman of committees handling major matters, while senior ministers without portfolio, such as the lord president (see Section 1.3.5) or the departmental minister concerned chaired the others.

The secretary of the Cabinet appointed a secretary to each committee from his own staff, and each assistant secretary in the office was normally secretary to several committees. The secretary was responsible for calling the meetings, circulating papers and dealing with committee clerks on all matters affecting the committees. Where a particular department was closely associated with the work a joint or assistant departmental secretary was often appointed who would know where to obtain the information required. In addition to recording information during the meetings and drafting reports, both types of secretary drew the chairman's attention to events or information affecting the committee and monitored the action taken to implement the conclusions.

The committee system mirrored Cabinet. Matters were raised by memoranda circulated in advance and the inclusion of an item on the agenda was at the discretion of the committee chairman. Information flowed upward to the committees from various sources. While many papers were prepared specifically for the committees, others started out in interdepartmental or departmental committees. Eventually, having been revised at each stage, some became Cabinet papers. Minutes, often fuller than those kept for Cabinet, were recorded and circulated to the departments concerned.

While the creation of a Cabinet committee indicated the importance of a subject, not all important policy issues were discussed by committees. For instance, despite the numerous discussions of the Seretse Khama affair, a racial dilemma concerning succession to Chieftainship in Bechuanaland Protectorate, no committee was formed. The need for information, a conflict of departmental interest or an emergency situation was a more likely criterion for attention by committee than were ideological questions. In fact, those aspects of colonial affairs which were discussed most extensively in Cabinet committees - defence, economic affairs and the Middle East - were hardly covered in Cabinet deliberations.

1.2.3 Cabinet Committee Involvement in Colonial/Imperial Affairs

The Cabinet committee involvement in colonial/imperial affairs is described in detail in Chapter 2, and summarized here in broad terms. During the inter-war years many of the relevant committees came under the Committee of Imperial Defence (CID) (see Section 1.3.1). A number of relevant committees were associated with the Committee of Civil Research, or after 1930 the Economic Advisory Council (see Section 1.3.4). The CID's main concern was to make preparations in the event of a war against Japan that would involve the energies of the entire empire. Singapore was identified as the strategic focal point, and many committees examined the setting up of a naval base there. Communication services were also important and radio, cable, beam wireless and mail services were scrutinized. The demand and supply of raw materials for forces and civilian populations overseas were also considered. Research at this time was mainly related to Africa and specifically to the control of locusts and tsetse flies. From 1928 to 1930 the proposed Baghdad-Haifa pipeline/railway was discussed in great depth, and many committees were set up to evaluate the position regarding Palestine.

In the years immediately prior to the Second World War, the CID began to examine a range of new subjects, all of which remained the preoccupation of committees throughout the war. These included: supply questions to oversea territories, mainly of ammunition and armaments; the procurement of raw materials and food, primarily from Africa; Middle East defence matters; and the procurement of sufficient oil, primarily from Iraq.

The vital strategic importance of the Middle East led to the creation of numerous War Cabinet committees set up to monitor the situation there. Towards the end of the war there was a great deal of emphasis on the Far East and South-East Asian defences.

Other major wartime concerns were shipping shortages caused by the blockade and ways to avoid shipping losses of vital items such as oil and food. The committees continually looked for ways to alleviate the problem, for instance by reducing imports or establishing overland supply routes, particularly across Africa to Cairo.

Once the United States of America (USA) entered the war numerous committees began to liaise with the Americans on operations and supply issues. This trend intensified when the food and raw material shortage became critical and the mutual aid and lend-lease programmes began to take shape. These programmes mainly affected the South-East Asian territories.

Post-war concerns were primarily economically orientated. In an attempt to restore the balance of payments the UK entered into trade and recovery negotiations, such as the European Recovery Programme, with many countries. Most of the raw materials and foodstuffs with which the UK could bargain were from the colonial territories. The world dollar crisis which persisted from the late forties to roughly 1953 caused major consternation at Cabinet committee level and numerous committees examined means of promoting trade within the sterling area. These involved development projects in the colonies which, it was hoped, would become dollar earners and supply many of the items formerly obtained from dollar sources.

The shortage of rice in South-East Asia was, in the post-war period, a primary concern, and the UK entered into procurement negotiations with Siam and Burma. The problem was further complicated in the early fifties by the growth of communism, which it was feared could spread from Malaya through the entire region and on to Africa.

Only towards the mid-fifties did constitutional issues begin to emerge on any significant level. Colonial policy generally was reviewed with special attention to Cyprus and Malta.

1.3 CABINET OFFICE SECRETARIAT

The functions of the secretariat as defined in 1916 have continued essentially the same. In addition to handling the memoranda and conclusions, the secretariat prepared agenda and arranged the attendance of ministers at meetings and handled correspondence and general secretarial work of the office. It supplied secretaries for Cabinet committees and such conferences as the prime minister summoned, co-ordinated the activities of committees, boards, or bodies set up by and responsible to Cabinet and recommended changes in the committee structure. In carrying out these functions the members of the secretariat acted on the instructions of the prime minister, the chairmen of committees and other ministers concerned. It was their duty to see that decisions of the prime minister and the Cabinet were carried out, and they chased up action, reaching into the ministries where necessary to get information.

The Cabinet Office worked closely with the prime minister. In some ways it functioned on a small scale as a prime minister's department, with the Cabinet secretary taking on some of the functions of a permanent secretary. Nevertheless the office was entirely separate from the prime minister's small personal civil service staff.

At the head of the Cabinet Office was the immensely important secretary of the Cabinet. Despite the steady growth of Cabinet business, his staff, who were senior officials in their own right, remained at about a dozen throughout the period to 1957. By the end of the war they consisted of a deputy secretary (civil), a deputy secretary (military), and an under-secretary, along with a number of assistant secretaries, who handled between them the business of the Cabinet and its committees. For instance, after the war, the business of the Defence Committee and its sub-committees was handled jointly by military and civil deputy secretaries and an under-secretary.

There were in addition a number of bodies, boards, offices and sections which functioned as part of or in association with the secretariat machinery. These are described below, in Sections 1.3.1-13, in order of their date of establishment. The descriptions make reference to the relevant classes, which are summarized in Chapter 3. The class summaries provide an indication of the colonial relevance of the body concerned.

1.3.1 Committee of Imperial Defence

Set up in 1902, the CID was an advisory body without executive powers which kept the defence situation as a whole constantly under review. It provided information needed for the formulation of

policy on the changing naval, military and air situation, thus helping to ensure the co-ordination of defence preparations, plans and expenditure.

Between the wars the committee's responsibilities expanded to cover wider strategy and defence matters, particularly preparations for warfare.

The CID met regularly, with the prime minister as the only permanent member, until the outbreak of the First World War. It remained in abeyance until June 1920, when a Standing Defence Sub-Committee was set up. In 1923 this was reconstituted as the CID and CID status was applied retrospectively to the meetings held between 1920 and 1923. A secretariat was provided by the Imperial, External Affairs and Defence Branch of the Cabinet Office which was set up in 1919 and became the CID secretariat in 1922. The CID met monthly between 1923 and 1928, and then less frequently until 1935. It met more frequently between 1935 and its absorption into the War Cabinet in 1939.

As the CID became a more fixed body its membership became more regular. By the 1930s its nucleus tended to consist of the three service ministers and the chiefs of staff; the secretaries of state for foreign affairs, the colonies, the dominions and India; a Treasury minister; and permanent heads of the Treasury and Foreign Office. Others, such as ministers from the dominions, were invited to attend as necessary.

The initial flexibility of membership necessitated a well-organized permanent secretariat to co-ordinate the committee's work, and from the outset full minutes and memoranda were kept for the committee and each of its subordinate bodies. Matters raised in the CID itself were allocated to one of four series of memoranda, including series 'C' on Colonial Defence (CAB 5) and series 'D' on miscellaneous matters (CAB 4) which included questions on the dependent territories. The secretary to the committee until 1938, M Hankey, and his staff acted as secretaries to numerous sub-committees and arranged for periodic reports to be submitted to the CID. The secretariat was also concerned with the preparation of war books which were constantly under revision and provided a means of co-ordinating departmental action.

The committee's main work was conducted through its standing sub-committees. Day to day matters were entrusted to the Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee (CAB 53), which was set up in 1924 and quickly became the most important element in the CID, together with its Deputy Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee (CAB 54). The most important standing sub-committee in terms of colonial affairs was Colonial/Oversea Defence (CAB 7-CAB 11). Numerous ad hoc sub-committees were set up, and the records are in CAB 16. The number of sub-committees was expanded prior to the Second World War to deal with the committee's enlarged responsibilities.

Relevant classes are listed in Section 3.2. Relevant committees are listed chronologically in Section 2.2 and are described in Section 2.3. Further details will be found in Public Record Office Handbooks: 6 *List of Papers of the Committee of Imperial Defence to 1914* (London, 1964); 11 *The Records of the Cabinet Office to 1922* (London, 1966); and 17 *The Cabinet Office to 1945* (London, 1975); also in Part 1, Section 103 of the *Public Record Office Guide*.

1.3.2 Historical Section

This section owed its origin to a memorandum by Lord Esher in September 1906 recommending that the responsibility for compiling the naval and military history of the United Kingdom be transferred to a department of the CID. After 1914 the section came under the aegis of the Committee of Imperial Defence and later of the Cabinet Office. Its main work was the preparation of the official histories of military operations in the First World War, the histories in the military and civil series for the Second World War and official peacetime histories.

Registered files of the Historical Section are in CAB 103 and CAB 106, unregistered correspondence and papers are in CAB 45, narratives in CAB 44, annotated copies of published volumes of military histories in the Second World War in CAB 101 and papers for the civil series in CAB 102. Records of the Committee for the Control of the Official Histories, 1940 to 1945, are in CAB 98 and the work of this committee is described in Section 2.3. The unregistered files of the historians of the official UK civil and military histories of the Second World War are in CAB 140. See also Part 1, Section 102.6.1 of the *Public Record Office Guide*.

1.3.3 Joint Planning Staff

In 1924 the Chiefs of Staff Committee (see Section 2.3) was set up with the responsibility, held jointly with the Committee of Imperial Defence (see Section 1.3.1) for advising the Cabinet on defence policy as a whole. The Joint Planning Committee (see Section 2.3) was set up in 1927 in the office of the CID to assist the Chiefs of Staff in their work (see Section 1.3.6). It was composed of the directors of plans of the three services including, from 1936, three extra officers drawn from the navy, army and air force respectively.

The Joint Planning Staff were the main agents of the Chiefs of Staff in preparing reports on problems of strategy and were responsible for keeping the whole strategic situation under constant review. The files of the Joint Planning Staff are in CAB 119 and the papers of their committees are in CAB 84. Minutes and memoranda are in CAB 138.

1.3.4 Economic Advisory Council

A Committee of Civil Research was established in 1925 as a standing committee reporting to the Cabinet, analogous in principle to the Committee of Imperial Defence. It was a purely advisory body without fixed membership. It considered, from a central standpoint, the development of economic, scientific and statistical research in relation to civil policy and administration and was responsible for defining new areas of enquiry. It worked through a system of sub-committees, the most important being the tsetse fly and locust control sub-committees.

In 1930 the Cabinet decided to set up the Economic Advisory Council to absorb and expand the work of the Committee of Civil Research. It was formed as a standing body to the Cabinet with responsibility for advising the government on economic matters. It had no administrative or executive powers. The council did not meet after 1932, its work being performed by its standing and sub-committees. It was wound up in 1939. Its records are in CAB 58, and the relevant

committees are described in Section 2.3. See also Part 1, Section 102.6.2 of the *Public Record Office Guide*.

1.3.5 Lord President of the Council

The lord president of the Council had no departmental duties, but as chairman of important committees he provided essential links in the policy-making mechanism. In 1940, at the beginning of Churchill's administration, the Lord President's Committee (see Section 2.3) was set up to ensure that the work of other ministerial committees was properly co-ordinated and to consider questions relating to economic and home affairs before they were presented to the War Cabinet. It was composed of the chairmen of the import and production executives; the civil defence, home policy and food policy committees; and, from 1943, the minister of reconstruction. The lord president of the Council answered questions on those matters in the House of Commons. He was also responsible for the Privy Council research committees, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Medical Research Council and the Agricultural Research Council.

The lord president's files along with the correspondence and papers of the Agricultural Research Council and of the National Radium Commission and National Radium Trust are in CAB 123. See CAB 124 for registered files relating to the lord president of the Council's role in reconstruction matters. See also Part 1, Section 107 of the *Public Record Office Guide*.

1.3.6 Chiefs of Staff/Combined Chiefs of Staff

At the outbreak of war in 1939 the Committee of Imperial Defence Secretariat amalgamated with that of the peacetime Cabinet to form a War Cabinet Secretariat (see Section 1.3.1). The CID Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee, set up in 1924, with its sub-committees, became part of the War Cabinet organization. The three chiefs of staff, comprising the first sea lord, the chief of the imperial general staff (CIGS) and the chief of the air staff (CAS), were the professional heads of their services. They were concerned with the day to day running of the war and its future direction.

For a brief period in 1939 the Military Co-ordination Committee was interposed between the Chiefs of Staff and the War Cabinet. When Churchill became minister of defence as well as prime minister in 1940 this committee was replaced by the Defence Committee, over which Churchill presided. It comprised two panels: the Defence Committee (Operations), consisting of service ministers supported by the chiefs of staff, and the Defence Committee (Supply).

Under the new arrangement the chiefs of staff had direct contact with the head of government for the first time. At first this took place through the Defence Committee, but as the war continued this committee's importance declined and military operations were left increasingly to Churchill and the chiefs of staff. After 1945 the chiefs of staff came under the Ministry of Defence and had access to the prime minister through the reconstituted and much more powerful Defence Committee set up by the peacetime Cabinet in 1946.

The three chiefs of staff and the chief staff officer to the Ministry of Defence generally met alone. Sometimes officials of the Foreign Office, Ministry of Economic Warfare and other ministries

attended. When Churchill was present at the meetings they were deemed 'staff conferences'. The committee met daily and gave executive directions and orders to the commanders in chief in the various theatres. They advised Churchill, the Defence Committee and the War Cabinet on major questions of war strategy and policy and had direct operational control of the Navy, Army and Air Forces. The chiefs of staff regularly attended War Cabinet meetings and gave weekly résumés of the war situation.

The chiefs of staff appointed a number of sub-committees, the most important of which were the Joint Planning Committee (later Staff), the Joint Intelligence Committee and the Principal Administrative Officers Committee. In 1942 the Joint Administrative Planning Staff was appointed to assist the Joint Planning Staff, mainly on transport matters.

The British Joint Staff Mission, set up in 1941, consisted of very senior officers from each of the services who represented their chiefs of staff in Washington. Its responsibilities were strategic and operational in collaboration with the USA.

The combined chiefs of staff, established in January 1942, comprised the chiefs of staff of the armed forces of the UK and the USA. Although the commanders were responsible to their own governments, the combined chiefs of staff made it possible to place forces effectively under a commander of a different nationality without breaking the chain of responsibility to the home government. The Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee was equipped with a supporting organization of a Combined Staff Secretariat, a Combined Intelligence Committee and Combined Staff Planners, together with a variety of committees on specific subjects.

The relevant classes are listed in Section 3.1, and several of them continue in DEFE classes. Relevant committees are described in Section 2.3.

1.3.7 Central Office for North American Supplies

In the years immediately preceding the Second World War, the Anglo-French Liaison Section was set up as part of the War Cabinet Secretariat. It provided the British Secretariat for the Allied Military Committee and the Anglo-French Executives and Co-ordinating Committee. The latter were dissolved after the fall of France. Part of the work of these committees had been to act as links between the various departments of the British government purchasing supplies from North America. With France out of the war, Britain needed US supplies to mount the offensive. The Central Office for North American Supplies was established as part of the War Cabinet Secretariat to continue the work of the Anglo-French Committee.

In July 1940 the Official North American Supplies Committee was superseded by a ministerial committee of the same name and the Central Office for North American Supplies became its secretariat. One of the functions of this secretariat was to act as a channel of communication between the North American Supply Committee and the British Supply Council in North America, which was set up at the same time to co-ordinate activities of supply missions in Washington.

When the Ministry of Production was created in 1942, the secretariat of the North American Supply Committee became a joint American secretariat (see CAB 110) responsible to the permanent secretary of the ministry and the secretary of the Cabinet.

The relevant records are in CAB 115.

1.3.8 Office of the Minister of Defence

When Churchill became prime minister in 1940, he also became minister of defence. The military members of the War Cabinet Secretariat formed the Defence Secretariat. The office performed secretarial functions for the Defence Committee (see Section 2.3) the Chiefs of Staff (see Section 1.3.6) and other military committees. It was responsible for the co-ordination of the service and the war production departments. It also collected information and conducted correspondence with commanders-in-chief abroad.

The files of the secretariat for the period that Churchill and Attlee combined the offices of prime minister and minister of defence are in CAB 120.

1.3.9 Reconstruction Secretariat

As early as 1940 the government began to place emphasis on post-war problems, and it was felt that the War Cabinet War Aims Committee required the assistance of a small secretariat. The secretariat was in effect the War Aims Section of the War Cabinet Secretariat, which provided clerical assistance.

In February 1941 when the Cabinet Ministerial Committee on Reconstruction Problems was set up it absorbed the War Aims Committee and thus the secretariat. Following this, in November 1942, another Cabinet ministerial committee, the Committee on Reconstruction Priorities, was established. This dual system of dealing with reconstruction matters continued until the creation of the office of minister of reconstruction in November 1943. The work of the secretariat was then transferred to the new ministry. At this time the Reconstruction Committee replaced the Committee on Reconstruction Problems and the Committee on Reconstruction Priorities. It facilitated decisions on matters of principle at the ministerial level.

The files of the secretariat are in CAB 117. Registered files of the office of minister of reconstruction are in CAB 124. See CAB 87 for meetings and papers of committees on reconstruction. See also Part 1, Section 106 of the *Public Record Office Guide*.

1.3.10 Allied Supplies Executive

The Allied Supplies Executive was established in October 1941 as a ministerial executive which took the place of the Committee for the Co-ordination of Allied Supplies. Part of its mandate was to determine questions relating to military and civil supplies to Russia and to the Persian Gulf. A subsidiary body was set up to deal with administration problems that arose regarding the despatch of civil supplies to the Middle East and Persian Gulf.

The executive had a small liaison secretariat which was part of the War Cabinet Secretariat and maintained close contact with the Ministry of War Transport and the staff of the North American Supply Committee. The files of the secretariat are in CAB 111. See also Section 9.2.2.

1.3.11 Central Statistical Office

The Central Statistical Office (CSO) was formally constituted in 1941. It owed its origins to the reorganization of the machinery for the central collection and presentation of statistical material and economic reports. This involved the reallocation of functions between it and two bodies performing similar tasks: the Prime Minister's Statistical Branch and the Economic Section of the War Cabinet Office.

The CSO's function was to collect from government departments figures covering the development of the UK war effort. These were to be used in interdepartmental discussions and in preparation of documents submitted by ministers for circulation to the War Cabinet and War Cabinet Committees. The CSO's work continued after the war when the need for effective co-ordination of all measures of economic policy was greater than ever before. Correspondence and papers of the office are in CAB 139, selected working papers are in CAB 141 and minutes and memoranda are in CAB 108. See also Part 1, Section 102.6.3 of the *Public Record Office Guide*.

1.3.12 Joint American Secretariat

The Joint American Secretariat was formally established in October 1942 as an advisory body. It communicated with the British Supply Council in Washington. It was also responsible for the interdepartmental circulation of all documents dealing with Anglo-American supply including North American supply, lend-lease, supplies to liberated areas, the Combined Production and Resources Board and the Middle East Supply Council.

Heads and staff came from the War Cabinet and the Ministry of Production, the nucleus of the secretariat being provided by the secretariat of the War Cabinet North American Supply Committee (see Section 1.3.7). It maintained close liaison with the Military Secretariat and other sections of the War Cabinet office.

The secretary's files are in CAB 110.

1.3.13 London Munitions Assignment Board

In January 1942, under an agreement between the prime minister of the UK and the president of the USA, all munitions resources of the two countries were placed in a common pool from which assignments were to be made to the 'United Nations' (the term used for the allies) in accordance with strategic needs. Munitions boards were set up in London and Washington to make this agreement effective, and Australia and Canada later set up munitions assignment committees with representatives from the UK and the USA. The boards were responsible to the Combined Chiefs of Staff who laid down the strategic directives and priorities. The entire organization was under the

Allocation Policy Committee which ensured that work was conducted within general government policy.

Claimant countries and services were grouped into two groups. One, including China and the South American republics, was managed by the Washington Board; the other, including the British empire and European allies, was managed by the London Board (LMAB). This division was not entirely successful. For example, once the US entered into lend-lease agreements with many countries that fell within the British domain, these countries found it simpler to deal direct with Washington for other assignments. Most of the work of the LMAB was carried out by allocation sub-committees which included representatives of all dominions and those of the allies. The secretary's files are in CAB 109. See also CAB 92/57-61.

CHAPTER 2

CABINET COMMITTEES 1925 TO 1957

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Roughly two thousand Cabinet committees and sub-committees met between 1925 and 1957, a quarter of which have been identified as having some involvement in colonial affairs and are described in the lists which follow. Some were specifically relevant, such as the Colonial Development Committee or the Malaya Committee, while others had less direct involvement. Notably, many of the general economic committees and committees on raw materials, sterling area and gold (all of which were checked for relevance) discussed colonial questions. While some of these committees made only scant references to individual territories, they referred to the empire implicitly in their discussions, especially from the post-war period when the territories were important factors in Britain's international economic position. Inevitably there were other relevant committees which have not been identified because their titles were so general.

Committees concerned with areas outside the empire, such as French West Africa, Japan, Egypt, Burma, Siam and China have been included where they made reasonably substantial reference to British dependent territories. For example, Burma and Siam were vital suppliers of rice for colonies in South and South-East Asia and committees dealing with Egypt often included consideration of the Sudan and Somaliland. India and Pakistan have not been included except in so far as they related to other British territories.

The line between committees, conferences and ad hoc meetings is not always clear, nor is it always easy to distinguish between committees set up by Cabinet and those set up by conferences. However, it has generally been assumed that if a committee's documents are classed as Cabinet records they should be treated as Cabinet committees. Where the documents were clearly created by a conference they are covered in Section 10.

The Cabinet committees are described in a chronological list (Section 2.2) and a master list (Section 2.3). The full chronological list provides an overview of the growth of Cabinet involvement in colonial affairs and its major interests in different periods. Once having located a committee title in the chronological list readers should refer to the master list which provides more detailed information.

2.2 CHRONOLOGICAL LIST

1885-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Oversea Defence Committee
1902-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence
1911-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Committee on the Co-ordination of Departmental Action on the Outbreak of War

1918-1939	Home Affairs Committee
1919-1929	Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee
1919-1927	Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Wireless Sub-Committee
1920-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Joint Oversea and Home Defence Committee
1923-1925	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Co-ordination of Departmental Action: Sub-Committee on the Transmission of Urgent Government Messages
1923-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee
1924-1938	Committee of Imperial Defence: Advisory Committee on Trade Questions in Times of War
1924-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers Committee
1924-1938	Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship
1924-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee for the Control of the Official Histories
1925-1928	Committee of Civil Research
1925-1938	Committee of Civil Research: Tsetse Fly Sub-Committee
1925-1927	Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Sub- Committee on Technical Wireless Regulations
1925-1929	Committee of Imperial Defence: Oversea Defence Committee: Sub- Committee on the Composition and Organization of Local Forces
1925-1928	Committee of Imperial Defence: Oil Board
1925-1933	Committee of Imperial Defence: Oil Board: Oil Fuel Board Sub-Committee
1925	Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers Committee: Sub- Committee on Optical Glass
1925-1928	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Singapore

1925	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the League of Nations and the Near East
1925	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Situation in Adaba
1925	Committee on Petroleum Policy in Iraq
1925	Committee on Policy with Regard to Iraq
1925-1927	Standing Committee on Expenditure
1926-1927	Committee of Civil Research: Kenya Native Welfare Sub-Committee
1926-1929	Committee of Civil Research: Research Co-ordination Sub-Committee
1926	Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Empire Supply of Quinine
1926-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Sub-Committee on the Co-ordination of Departmental Action on the Outbreak of War: War Book Sub-Committee
1926-1927	Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Sub-Committee on the Colonial Wireless System
1926	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Demilitarized Zones
1926	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Policy in Regard to the Supply of Arms to Foreign Countries
1926	Committee on Empire Marketing
1926	Iraq Policy Committee
1927	Beam Wireless Committee
1927	Colonial Military Contributions Committee
1927	Committee of Civil Research: Research Co-ordination Sub-Committee: Empire Marketing Board Sub-Committee
1927-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee: Joint Planning Sub-Committee

1927	Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Sub-Committee on Competition Between 'Beam' Wireless and Cable Services
1927-1938	Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers Committee: Board of Trade Supply Organization
1927-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers Committee: Supply Board
1927-1938	Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship: Censorship Documents Sub-Committee
1927	Committee on Policy in East Africa
1927	Committee on the Future of British Commercial Air Transport
1927	Egyptian Agreement Committee
1927	Opium Policy Committee
1928-1930	Committee of Civil Research: Irrigation Research Sub-Committee
1928-1929	Committee of Civil Research: Radium Sub-Committee
1928	Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Rubber Restriction
1928	Committee of Imperial Defence: Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee: Singapore Sub-Committee
1928	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Construction of the Proposed Haifa-Baghdad Railway and/or Pipeline
1928	Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Sub-Committee on Allocation of Short-Wave Lengths
1928-1931	Committee of Imperial Defence: Joint Oversea and Home Defence Committee: Sub-Committee on the Defence of British Ports Oversea, Mediterranean Ports
1928	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Akhwan Situation
1928-1929	Committee of Imperial Defence: Persian Gulf Sub-Committee
1928	Committee on Policy in Regard to Competition Between Beam Wireless and Cable Companies

1928	Committee on the Aden Police Force
1928	Committee on the Proposed Baghdad-Haifa Railway and Pipeline
1928	Proposed Agreement between the Anglo-Persian Oil Company and the Asiatic Petroleum Company
1929	Committee of Imperial Defence: Persian Gulf Sub-Committee: Sub-Committee on Political Control
1929-1930	Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Agricultural Research Organization
1929-1939	Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Locust Control
1929-1930	Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on the Cotton Industry
1929	Committee on the Baghdad-Haifa Railway and/or Pipeline
1929	Committee on Egypt
1929	Committee on Policy in East Africa
1929-1939	Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Locust Control
1929-1930	Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on the Cotton Industry
1929	Interdepartmental Committee on Oversea Development and Migration
1930	Baghdad-Haifa Interdepartmental Sub-Committee
1930	Committee of Imperial Defence: Palestine Garrison Sub-Committee
1930	Committee on China
1930	Committee on Copper Production in Northern Rhodesia
1930	Committee on Policy in East Africa
1930	Committee on Policy in Palestine
1930-1931	Committee on Policy in Palestine
1930	Committee on the Baghdad-Haifa Railway and Pipeline

1930	Committee on the Colonial Sugar Industry
1930	Committee on the New Hebrides
1930-1932	Committee on the Proposed Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa
1930-1932	Economic Advisory Council
1930-1931	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Education and Supply of Biologists
1930-1931	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Empire Migration
1930	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Empire Trade 1930
1930-1931	Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee: Game Sub-Committee
1930-1931	Iraq Oil Committee
1930	Palestine Committee
1931	Committee of Imperial Defence: Committee on the Co-ordination of Departmental Action on the Outbreak of War: Sub-Committee on Prefixes for Urgent Government Messages
1931	Committee of Imperial Defence: Interdepartmental Sub-Committee on Preparation for the Disarmament Conference
1931-1935	Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Ministerial Sub-Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East
1931-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Official Sub-Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East
1931	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Disarmament Conference (Three Party Committee)
1931-1932	Committee on the Balance of Trade
1931	Committee on the Report of the Committee on National Expenditure
1931-1939	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on United Kingdom Representation at International Meetings

1931-1932	Economic Advisory Council: Sub-Committee on Financial Questions
1931	Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee: Closer Union Sub-Committee
1931	Tin Restriction Committee
1932-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee: Deputy Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee
1932-1933	Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Strategic Cables Sub-Committee
1932-1933	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Egypt
1932	Committee on Palestine
1932	Committee on the Proposed Imperial Preference for Palestine
1932-1938	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Scientific Research
1932-1933	Economic Advisory Council: Preparatory Committee for the International Conference for the Protection of Fauna and Flora of Africa, 1933
1932-1936	Economic Advisory Council: Sub-Committee on Locust Control: Aircraft Experiments Sub-Committee
1933	Economic Advisory Council: Preparatory Committee for the International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa, 1933: Drafting Sub-Committee
1933	Interdepartmental Committee for the Imperial Economic Conference: Committee on Economic Consultation and Co-operation 1933
1934	Committee of Imperial Defence: South Africa: Co-operation in Defence with East African Colonies: Interdepartmental Committee
1934	Committee of Imperial Defence: Southern Rhodesia: Sub-Committee on Proposed Contribution to Imperial Defence
1934	Committee on Commercial Air Transport
1934	Committee on the Next Imperial Conference

1934-1936	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Locust Control: Finance Sub-Committee
1934-1939	Economic Advisory Council: Fauna and Flora of Asia Committee: Sub-Committee for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Asia, Australia and New Zealand
1934-1937	Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee: East Africa Sub-Committee
1934	Japanese Trade Competition
1935	Committee of Imperial Defence: Official Sub-Committee on Abyssinia
1935-1937	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Defence Policy and Requirements
1935-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee to Prepare Plans for the Establishment of a Ministry of Information
1935	Committee on Political and Economic Relations with Japan
1936-1939	Anglo-Egyptian Conversations
1936-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Oil Board: Sub-Committee on Petroleum Products Reserves
1936-1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Accumulation of Stocks of Essential Raw Materials
1936	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Transfer of a Colonial Mandate or Mandates to Germany
1936-1939	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Nutrition in the Colonial Empire
1936	Economic Advisory Council: Committee for the Application of the Convention for the Protection of Fauna and Flora
1936	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Locust Control: Red Locust Control Sub-Committee
1936	Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee: Tanganyika Sub-Committee
1936-1939	Foreign Policy

1937	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Zinc Imports
1937	Committee on British Shipping in the Far East
1937-1939	Committee on Overseas Broadcasting
1937	Committee on the Assyrians in Iraq
1937-1938	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Nutrition in the Colonial Empire: Drafting Sub-Committee
1937-1938	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Nutrition in the Colonial Empire: Research Sub-Committee
1938-1939	Committee on Palestine
1938	Committee on the Cadman Report on Civil Aviation
1938	Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Locust Control: Sub-Committee on the Control of Outbreak Areas
1938	Economic Advisory Council: Second International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa: Interdepartmental Committee of Organization
1939	Allied Demands Committee
1939-1946	Chiefs of Staff Committee
1939-1940	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Deputy Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee
1939-1943	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Port Defence Committee
1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Control of Aliens in War
1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee to Prepare plans for the Establishment of a Ministry of Information: Sub-Committee on Propaganda in Foreign Countries in Time of War
1939	Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee to Prepare Plans for the Establishment of a Ministry of Information: Sub-Committee on the Arrangements for the Dissemination by Wireless in Time of War of British News and Publicity

1939	Committee on the Refugee Problem
1939-1942	Food Policy Committee
1939-1946	Imperial Communications Committee
1939-1940	Interdepartmental Committee on Economic Policy
1939-1943	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Planning Staff
1939-1940	Military Co-ordination Committee
1939	Ministerial Committee on Economic Policy: Ministerial Sub-Committee on Encouragement of Exports
1939-1943	Official Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East
1939-1945	Oil Control Board
1939-1940	Oil Control Board: Sub-Committee on Supplies
1939-1942	Oversea Defence Committee
1939-1945	Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship
1939-1941	Survey of War Plans in the Economic and Financial Spheres
1940-1945	Committee for the Control of Official Histories
1940-1945	Defence Committee (Operations)
1940-1945	Defence Committee (Supply): Sub-Committee on the Allocation of Small Arms Ammunition
1940-1945	Far Eastern Committee
1940-1945	Far Eastern Committee: Sub-Committee on Economic Matters
1940	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Planning Committee: Joint Planning Sub-Committee: Inter-Service Planning
1940-1941	Ministerial Committee on Economic Policy: Sub-Committee on Export Surpluses

1940	Ministerial Committee on Economic Policy: Sub-Committee on Substitute Materials
1940-1941	Ministerial Committee on Military Policy in the Middle East
1940-1941	Official Committee on Export Surpluses
1940	Shipping Problems
1940	Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship: Sub-Committee on Examination of Mails at Overseas Stations
1941-1942	Air Services to the Middle East
1941	Basra Committee
1941-1952	British Joint Staff Mission
1941-1942	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Radio Direction Finding Policy Sub-Committee
1941-1942	Civil Supplies to the Middle East and Persian Gulf Areas
1941	Collective Military Counter Action to meet a Japanese Attack
1941	Committee for the Control of Official Histories: Advisory Historical Committee
1941-1943	Conference with the Minister of State, Middle East
1941	Co-ordination of Departmental Action in Event of War with Japan
1941	Far Eastern Committee: Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Propaganda in the Far East
1941-1942	Import Executive
1941-1942	Interdepartmental Committee on Civil Aviation
1941	Ministerial Committee on United States Bases
1941	Official Committee on Export Surpluses: Sugar Sub-Committee
1941-1947	Overseas Mails Committee
1941	Railway and Port Development in the Middle East and Persia

1941	Sub-Committee on the Control of Air Forces in Iraq
1941	Technical Assistance from the United States of America
1941	United States Bases Discussions
1942-1943	Africa Committee
1942	Africa Committee: Inland Transport Sub-Committee
1942-1943	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Defence Arrangements for the Indian Ocean Area
1942-1945	Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee
1942-1945	Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Combined Staff Planners
1942-1943	Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Combined Meteorological Committee
1942-1945	Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Combined Military Transportation Committee
1942-1945	Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Munitions Assignment Board
1942-1946	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Principal Administrative Officers Committee
1942-1943	Committee on Allied African Economic Affairs
1942-1943	Committee on Economic Co-ordination in French North and West Africa
1942	Committee on Overseas Manpower
1942-1945	Committee on the Reception and Accommodation of Refugees
1942	Committee on the Shipping Situation
1942	Evacuation of Refugees from the Middle East
1942	Functions of the Minister of State in the Middle East
1942-1946	Imperial Communications Committee: Technical Sub-Committee
1942-1945	Joint Administrative Planning Committee

1942-1945	Middle East Supplies Committee
1942-1944	Middle East Supplies Committee (Washington)
1942-1945	Middle East Supplies Committee: Middle East Supplies Washington (Combined) Committee
1942-1943	Pacific War Council
1942-1943	Committee on Post-War Commodity Policy and Relief
1942	Committee on Post-War Commodity Policy and Relief: Far Eastern Sub-Committee
1942	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Principal Administrative Officers Committee: Joint Movement and Transportation Committee
1942-1945	Shipping Committee
1942-1945	Shipping Committee: Adjustment Board
1943	Africa Committee: Ethiopia Sub-Committee
1943	Allied Liaison in the Middle East
1943	Anglo-American Discussions under Article VII
1943	Bulk Indents for Medical Supplies to the Middle East
1943	Ceylon Constitution
1943-1945	Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Combined Administration Committee
1943-1945	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Defence of Bases Committee
1943-1945	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Technical Warfare Committee
1943-1944	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Post-Hostilities Planning Committee
1943	Civil Air Transport British Commonwealth Conversations
1943	Committee on Basic English
1943	Committee on Military Overseas Supply Requirements: Working Committee

1943-1945	Committee on Palestine
1943	Discussions on Agenda under Article 7 of the Mutual Aid Agreement: UK Delegation
1943	Committee on Military Overseas Supply Requirements
1943-1945	Official Committee on Supply Questions in Liberated and Conquered Areas
1943-1947	Overseas Mails Committee: Overseas Mails Sub-Committee
1943	Resident Minister in West Africa
1943	Shipping Committee: Shipping (Operational) Committee
1943	Shipping Committee: Sub-Committee on the Availability of Cargoes
1943-1944	United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture
1944-1945	Armistice and Post-War Committee
1944-1945	Committee on Armistice Terms and Civil Administration
1944-1945	Committee on Empire Telecommunications Services
1944	Committee on Policy in Ethiopia
1944	Committee on Policy in Malaya and Borneo
1944	Committee on Preparations for the Meeting with Dominion Prime Ministers
1944	Lend-Lease and Mutual Aid in Stage II
1944-1945	Ministerial Committee on Supply Questions in Liberated and Conquered Areas
1944	Ministerial Oil Committee
1944-1945	Morale and Welfare in the Far East
1944	Official Committee on Empire Telecommunication Services
1944	Proposed Colonial Declaration

1944-1945	Reconstruction Committee: Ministerial Sub-Committee on Industrial Problems (Export Questions)
1944	South-East Asia Command, Public Relations Matters, London Committee
1944	Special Civil Aviation Committee
1944-1945	Special Committee on Oil
1944-1945	Suez Canal Committee
1945	Ad Hoc Committee on Combined Supplies Review
1945-1951	Civil Aviation Committee
1945-1947	Colonial Affairs Committee
1945-1946	Committee on External Economic Policy and Overseas Trade
1945	Far Eastern Committee: Working Party to Consider Terms for a Friendly Siamese Government
1945	Far Eastern (Ministerial) Committee
1945-1953	Far Eastern (Official) Committee
1945	Far Eastern (Official) Committee: Far East Civil Planning Unit
1945-1947	India and Burma Committee
1945-1946	Manpower (Ministerial) Committee: Working Party
1945-1951	Materials Committee
1945-1953	Middle East (Official) Committee
1945-1949	Overseas Reconstruction Committee
1945	Overseas Reconstruction Committee: Supplies Sub-Committee
1945-1946	Parliamentary Control of Orders Relating to Colonial Constitutions
1945	Rice Shortage of World Supplies
1945-1946	Wheat Supplies

1945-1946	Working Party on War Potential
1946-1948	Committee on Overseas Economic Information
1946	Committee on British Nationality
1946	Committee on Preparations for the Meeting of Dominion Prime Ministers
1946-1957	Defence Committee
1946	Food Supplies
1946	Chiefs of Staff Committee: Inter-service Personnel Movement Co-ordinating Committee
1946-1951	Lord President's Committee
1946-1947	Ministerial Committee on Economic Planning
1946-1949	Official Committee on Food Supplies from South-East Asia and Certain Other Countries
1946	Official Committee on Food Supplies from South-East Asia and Certain Other Countries: Sub-Committee on the Proposal to Send a Mission to West Africa
1946-1948	Official Committee on Food Supplies from South-East Asia and Certain Other Countries: Working Party on the Revision of the Tripartite Rice Agreement with Siam
1946-1948	Overseas Information Services (Ministerial) Committee
1946-1949	Overseas Information Services (Official) Committee
1946	Palestine Combined Study of Report of Anglo-American Committee
1946	Palestine Combined Study of Report of Anglo-American Committee: British Delegation Meeting
1946-1957	Steering Committee on International Organizations
1946-1947	Trade Negotiations Committee

1946	Trade Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Non-Tariff Questions
1946-1947	Trade Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Tariffs
1947	Balance of Payments: Import Programmes [Ad Hoc Committee]
1947	Balance of Payments; Overseas Negotiations Committee
1947-1953	Balance of Payments Committee: Sub-Committee on Statistics
1947	British Commonwealth Talks: Western European Customs Union
1947	Committee on Overseas Economic Policy
1947	Committee on Exports
1947-1950	Commonwealth Affairs Committee
1947	Commonwealth Relations
1947-1948	Commonwealth Talks on Customs Unions: The United Kingdom Delegation
1947	Definition of Functions of the Colonial Development Corporation and the Overseas Food Corporation
1947	1948 Dollar Programme
1947-1959	Economic Policy Committee
1947-1948	European Economic Co-operation (London Committee)
1947-1948	Exchange Requirements Committee
1947	Exchange Requirements Committee: Working Party on Purchases of Rice and Working Party on Services Oil Requirements
1947	Interdepartmental Committee on Resettlement in Employment of Members of the Forces
1947-1950	Official Oil Committee
1947-1956	Overseas Negotiations Committee: Monthly Report on External Finance

1947	Overseas Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Palestine
1947-1951	Steering Committee on International Organizations: Working Party on Social Affairs
1947	Sterling Area Conference
1947	Trade Negotiations Committee: Sub-Committee on International Commodity Policy
1947	Working Party on the Guidance of Exports
1948-1949	Anti-Communist Propaganda
1948-1949	British Washington Committee
1948-1951	Committee on Colonial Development
1948-1950	Committee on Industrial Productivity: Panel on Import Substitution
1948-1956	Committee on Overseas Scientific Relations
1948	Committee on Preparations for the Meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers
1948-1957	Commonwealth Liaison Committee
1948	Cyrenaica
1948	Discussions on the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty
1948-1956	Economic Planning Board
1948-1951	European Economic Co-operation Committee
1948	European Economic Co-operation (London Committee): Sub-Committee on Programmes
1948-1950	European Economic Co-operation Committee: Strategic Materials and Stockpiling Sub-Committee
1948-1951	European Economic Co-operation Committee: Weekly record of departmental discussions with members of the ECA Mission to the United Kingdom

1948-1949	European Recovery Programme (British Washington Committee)
1948	Exchange Requirements Committee: Sub-Committee on Raw Materials
1948	Financing of Colonial Defence
1948-1950	Imports Diversion Committee
1948-1952	Official Committee on Welfare of Overseas Students
1948-1955	Overseas Negotiations Committee
1948-1956	Overseas Negotiations Committee Agreed Minutes
1948-1949	Overseas Negotiations Committee: Working Parties
1948	Overseas Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Exports of Finished Steel
1948	Palestine - Brussels Treaty: Military Conversations
1948-1951	Programmes Committee
1948-1950	Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Country Import Programmes
1948-1951	Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Food
1948	Report by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff on his Visit to Africa
1948-1951	Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Raw Materials
1948-1950	Steering Committee on International Organizations: Ad Hoc Working Parties
1948	Working Party on Non-Dollar Balance of Payments
1948	Working Party to Prepare Briefs on the General Economic Situation for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting
1949	Ad Hoc Interdepartmental Committee on US Investment in the Sterling Area
1949	Ad Hoc Working Party on Economic Development of Underdeveloped Countries
1949	Burma

1949-1950	China and South-East Asia Committee
1949-1951	Committee on Colonial Development: Sub-Committee on Import Programmes
1949-1950	Committee on Colonial Development: Working Party on Submission of Information to the Economic Co-operation Administration
1949	Commonwealth Economic Development Committee
1949	Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference Working Party
1949	Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Steel Working Group
1949	Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Working Group on Processed Foodstuffs
1949-1955	Economic Committee (Washington)
1949	Hong Kong: Command and Government
1949	Imports Diversion Committee: Working Group on Cotton
1949	Official Committee on Economic Development (Overseas)
1949-1950	Official Committee on Economic Development Working Group
1949	Preparations for Meetings of Commonwealth Officials on Economic Affairs in Colombo, January 1950
1949-1950	Washington Continuing Consultative Committee
1949	Working Party on Food Supplies and Communism
1949-1951	Working Party on the Oil Expansion Programme
1950	Committee on Colonial Development: Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Transport
1950	Commonwealth Consultative Committee
1950	Commonwealth Consultative Committee: Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia

1950	Commonwealth Consultative Committee: Preliminary Meeting of Officials
1950	Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Sub-Committee on the Popular Version of the Report on South and South-East Asia (also called Working Party on the Popular Version of the Colombo Plan)
1950	Commonwealth Meeting on Oil
1950	Commonwealth Working Party on the Japanese Peace Treaty
1950	Economic Development in South and South-East Asia
1950-1951	European Economic Co-operation Committee: Sub-Committee on Technical Assistance
1950-1951	Government Organization Committee: Steering Committee for Economic Organization Inquiry
1950-1951	Immigration of British Subjects into the United Kingdom
1950-1951	Malaya Committee
1950	Meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers: Official Committee on Preparations for the Meeting
1950-1951	Mutual Aid Committee
1950-1955	Natural Resources (Technical) Committee
1950-1951	Official Committee on Economic Development: Working Party on Economic Development in South and South-East Asia
1950-1955	Overseas Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Cement
1950	Overseas Operations (Security of Forces) Bill
1950-1951	Raw Materials Committee
1950	Resettlement of Refugees
1950	Working Party on Briefs for the Commonwealth Meeting on General Economic and Trade Questions
1950-1951	Working Party on Long Term Economic Relations with Japan

1951	Commonwealth Economic Affairs
1951	Economic Position
1951-1954	Far Eastern (Official) Committee: Rice Sub-Committee
1951	Far Eastern (Official) Committee: Working Party on Economic Sanctions Against China
1951	Meeting of Commonwealth Defence Ministers: Official Committee on Preparations for the Meeting
1951	Meeting of Commonwealth Ministers concerned with Supply and Production
1951	Meeting of Commonwealth Ministers concerned with Supply and Production: Preliminary Meetings of Officials
1951	Meetings with the Director of Operations, Federation of Malaya
1951	Middle East Command
1951-1957	Overseas Negotiations Committee: Exports Sub-Committee
1951	Programmes Committee: Statistical Group 1952 Programme
1951	Raw Materials Committee: Daily Press Summary
1951	Working Party on Economic Prospects for 1952
1951-1953	Working Party on Exhibitions Overseas
1951	Working Party on Preparations for the Commonwealth Supply Meeting
1952	Committee of Inquiry into Overseas Information Services
1952	Committee on Preparations for Commonwealth Economic Conference
1952	Malaya
1952-1956	Materials (Allocation) Committee
1952	Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers: Working Party on Convertibility and Related Problems

1952	Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers: Working Party on Development
1952	Natural Resources (Technical) Committee: Working Party on Pulp Production
1952	Official Committee on Preparations for the Commonwealth Economic Conference
1952	Working Party on External Economic Policy
1953	Committee on British Somaliland
1953	Committee on Preparations for the Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers
1953-1954	Committee on the Drogheda Report on the Overseas Information Services
1953	Committee on Trade and Employment
1953	Commonwealth Economic Conference, Further Consultation
1953	Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Meeting: Preparatory Meeting of Officials on Short Term Balance of Payments Prospects
1953	Commonwealth Economic Conference, Further Consultation
1953	Defence Negotiations with Egypt
1953-1956	Economic Survey Working Party
1953	Egypt and Sudan
1953	External Affairs
1953	Meeting of Ministers: Four Power Talks and Trieste; Central African Federation; Ceylon
1953	Mutual Aid Committee: Sub-Committee on East-West Trade
1953-1954	Official Committee on Commonwealth Membership

1953	Official Committee on Preparations for Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Meeting: United Kingdom Working Party on Commonwealth Development
1953	Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Review of Import Policy
1953	Tariff Policy on Japan
1953-1954	Working Party on World Economic Problems
1954	Committee on External Economic Policy
1954	Committee on Progress of the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
1954	Committee on Supply of Arms to the Middle East
1954	Committee on the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
1954	Commonwealth Meeting on the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
1954	Egypt: Defence Negotiations
1954	Evacuation of Maltese from Egypt in Emergency
1954	Information Services
1954	Meeting of Ministers: Indo-China; Royal Tour; Gibraltar
1954	Meeting of Ministers on Middle East Defence
1954-1955	Official Committee on the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
1954	Programmes Committee: Working Party on the Effects of a United States Recession
1954-1955	Rice (Official) Committee
1954	South-East Asia
1955-1956	Advisory Council on Scientific Policy: Working Party on Centre of Tropical Agriculture

1955-1956	Colonial Policy Committee (Ministerial)
1955-1964	Committee on Balance of Payments Prospects
1955	Committee on Balance of Payments Prospects: Statistical Sub-Committee
1955	Cotton Industry
1955	Economic Policy Committee: Sub-Committee on Jamaican Cigar Industry
1955	Economic Policy Committee: Sub-Committee on the Removal of Quantitative Restrictions and Tariff Policy
1955-1957	Economic Steering Committee: Sub-Committee on the Removal of Quantitative Restrictions and Tariff Policy
1955	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade: Review of Waivers
1955	Malta Committee (Ministerial)
1955-1956	Middle East Affairs Committee
1955	Ministerial Committee on Cyprus
1955-1956	Mutual Aid Committee: Sub-Committee on South and South-East Asia
1955	Office of the United Kingdom Commissioner General in South-East Asia
1955	Official Committee on Malta
1955-1956	Official Committee on the Military Implications of General Templer's Report on Colonial Security
1955	Security in Cyprus
1955	United States Fruit
1956	Committee on Colonial Immigrants
1956	Committee on Eastern Asia
1956-1957	Committee on the Welfare of Overseas Students
1956	Disturbances in Jordan

1956	Economic Policy Committee: Sub-Committee on Economic Measures
1956-1957	Economic Steering Committee: Sub-Committee on Closer Economic Association with Europe: Working Party on the Colonies
1956	Economic Steering Committee: Sub-Committee on Economic Measures
1956	Egypt Committee
1956	Egypt (Official) Committee
1956	Meeting of Ministers and Officials on Jordan
1956	Meeting of Ministers on the Suez Canal: Problems arising from the Diversion of Shipping
1956	Meeting of Ministers on the Suez Canal: Publicity Arrangements
1956	Ministerial Committee on Oversea Broadcasting
1956	Ministerial Committee on Preparations for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting
1956	Ministerial Committee on Strategic Exports Policy
1956-1957	Official Committee on Colonial Policy
1956	Official Committee on Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting
1957	Africa (Official) Committee
1957	Colonial Policy Committee
1957	Committee on Commonwealth Economic Development
1957	Committee on Judicial Appeals from Malaya
1957	Committee on Oversea Information Services (Ministerial)
1957	Committee on Oversea Information Services: Working Party on British Television Prospects Overseas
1957	Economic Steering Committee: Sub-Committee on Closer Economic Association with Europe: Working Party on Special Session of the GATT

1957	Financial Position of Iraq
1957	Jordan and Cyprus
1957	Malta: Economic Equivalence
1957	Meetings of Ministers on the Defence Programme
1957	Official Committee on Oversea Information Services
1957	Official Committee on the Middle East
1957	Official Committee on the Middle East: Suez Canal Sub-Committee
1957	Working Group on Bermuda Conference
1957	Washington Talks

2.3 MASTER LIST

The master list, which is arranged alphabetically, with sub-committees grouped under the main committee, provides a set of data for each relevant committee. This comprises the PRO reference, old reference, dates during which the committee met, number of meetings, number of papers, names of chairmen and departmental secretaries (with the departments they represented), dates the officials served on the committee and summary of terms of reference and major areas of concern. If the committee did not actually meet, the dates during which the papers were prepared are given in square brackets. Where known, references to Cabinet committees in the records of other departments are noted.

Ministerial and official committees (which are defined in Section 1.2.1) can often be distinguished by their titles. Otherwise, the nature of the committee should be apparent from its composition. If chaired by a minister it was normally a ministerial committee and if by a permanent secretary or other official it was an official committee.

Several points need clarification regarding the listing of committee officials. Departmental secretaries are not listed when there were Cabinet secretaries only, nor are chairmen and secretaries listed for chiefs of staff committees. In the latter case the chairmanship was held by one of the chiefs of staff and the secretaries were all members of the military. Where the secretary's department was not indicated in the committee documents it has been taken from the *Imperial Calendar*. However, no calendars were printed for the years 1942 and 1944, and details for these years have sometimes been unobtainable. Where officials were on secondment it was not always possible to establish the departments in which they were serving at the time they acted as departmental secretaries. In some cases some of the volumes of a committee's records have been retained by the department or are still closed to the public, and it has not been possible to give the full details of the committee officials nor the exact number of meetings or papers. If committees

were constituted before 1925 the chairmen and secretaries have been listed only from 1925 onwards. The titles of individuals have generally been omitted, but because the number of women involved was small they have been indicated as 'Miss' or 'Mrs' in the list.

The summaries provided in the master list have been compiled on the basis of an examination of the committee's minutes and memoranda. The level of detail does not necessarily indicate the importance of the committees; activities of committees of less obvious relevance or more diverse interests sometimes required more description.

A set of lists of committee memoranda has been assembled by photocopying lists bound up with the records and is available for use in the reading rooms of the Public Record Office at Kew.

Readers should note that an investigation of the records of departments from which committee secretaries were drawn may reveal further relevant material.

1948 Dollar Programme (GEN 197)

14 Oct 1947

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1947 Oct: E Bridges, Treasury

Secretaries: 1947 Oct: M T Flett, Treasury

1947 Oct: G [H] Van Loo, Treasury

The committee met only once to assess the UK's balance of payments position. Radical measures were needed to meet the estimated dollar drain during 1948, and the extent to which USA assistance would have to be sought was examined. The committee suggested ways in which dollar reserves could be protected and assessed the importance of the raw materials programme, which implicitly involved colonial markets.

CAB 130/27

Ad Hoc Committee on Combined Supplies Review (GEN 66)

7 May 1945

Meetings: 1

Papers: 4

Subjects: foodstuffs

Chairman: 1945 May: O Lyttelton, minister of production

Secretary: 1945 May: F Thistlethwaite, Ministry of Production

The committee was set up to examine the report, completed in the USA, of the ministers of production and food on world food supplies. Having agreed on a world balance sheet covering the more important foodstuffs, such as oils, fats and sugar, the mission found that there were shortages of most of the commodities. For instance, rice was in short supply in Ceylon and the

West Indies. It was agreed that an attempt should be made to increase food production in the British territories.

CAB 78/33

Ad Hoc Interdepartmental Committee on US Investment in the Sterling Area (GEN 303)

1 Nov 1949 - 7 Dec 1949

Meetings: 5

Papers: 22

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1949 Nov: E Rowe-Dutton, Treasury

1949 Nov - Dec: H Brittain, Treasury

The British government hoped that US investments would relieve the dollar balance of payments, at least in the long term, and the committee examined obstacles to investment in the sterling area, particularly in the colonies. These included exchange control policy, the criteria for accepting applications for US investment, social legislation and emerging nationalism. The committee also considered a proposal to set up a consortium of banks and finance houses in the UK to steer foreign private investment into the colonies.

See also CO 852/1049/2.

CAB 130/56

Ad Hoc Working Party on Economic Development of Underdeveloped Countries (GEN 277)

17 Feb 1949 - 21 Feb 1949

Meetings: 2

Papers: 9

Subjects: trade, finance and economics; colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairman: 1949 Feb: E A Hitchman, Central Economic Planning Staff

Secretary: 1949 Feb: D J Brenton, no details

The working party was set up to review the draft brief for the UK delegation to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) session on underdeveloped countries and reveal the UK's attitude to economic development and technical assistance to the colonies. The Colonial Office did not want colonial development programmes to be sacrificed for the sake of those in foreign underdeveloped territories. The emphasis of the ECOSOC discussions was on President Truman's 'Fourth Point' and how the Americans would implement it. The choice of consultants for large government schemes overseas was also examined.

CAB 130/45

Advisory Council on Scientific Policy: Working Party on Centre of Tropical Agriculture (SP(B)(TA))

22 Sept 1955 - 9 May 1956

Meetings: 3

Papers: 5

Subjects: research

Chairman: 1955 Sept - 1956 May: S Zuckerman, Agricultural Research Council

Secretary: 1955 Sept - 1956 May: H B Lewin, Office of the Lord President of the Council

The working party, established by the advisory council which was responsible to the Office of the Lord President of the Council, examined a proposal for a London centre for tropical agriculture. There were insufficient numbers of people trained to work on soil and crop problems in tropical areas and many Colonial Development Corporation agricultural schemes had failed as a result of staff being trained in temperate agricultural conditions. Although the centre's main interest would be the commonwealth and colonial empire, its scope would be tropical agriculture anywhere in the world.

CAB 132/112

Africa Committee (A(42))

25 Aug 1942 - 19 Feb 1943

Meetings: 4

Papers: 17

Subjects: Africa

Chairmen: 1942 Aug - Oct: Viscount Cranborne, secretary of state for the colonies

1943 Feb: O Stanley, secretary of state for the colonies

Secretaries: 1942 Aug: F J Pedler, Colonial Office

1943 Feb: K E Robinson, Colonial Office

The committee was created to deal with policy questions raised by Lord Swinton following his appointment as minister resident in West Africa. It considered a wide range of subjects including American participation in the war effort, inland transport in Africa and the provision of equipment for railways, white manpower in East Africa to supervise production of urgently required cereals and the setting up of secondary industries in Africa.

See also MAF 83/199; CAB 66/26, WP 289.

CAB 95/10

Africa Committee: Ethiopia Sub-Committee (A(E)(43))

18 Jan 1943 - 29 June 1943

Meetings: 2

Papers: 11

Subjects: Africa

Chairman: 1943 Jan - June: J Stephenson, Dominions Office

Secretary: 1943 Jan - June: C E Lambert, Colonial Office

The sub-committee was set up to advise on and consider permanent solutions to questions relating to administration of areas on the borders of Ethiopia and of occupied Italian East African territory under British administration, taking into account the migratory habits of the frontier tribes and the need to determine and secure their respective grazing areas. Its considerations included Ethiopia's boundaries with Sudan, Kenya and British Somaliland. It was felt that the Kenya-Ethiopia boundary should be adjusted to secure British control of permanent watering places which were north of the existing treaty line but were used traditionally by tribes centred in Kenyan territory.

See also CO 847/23/12; CO 847/24/9.

CAB 95/10

Africa Committee: Inland Transport Sub-Committee (A(IT)(42))

31 Aug 1942 - 9 Dec 1942

Meetings: 6

Papers: 13

Subjects: Africa; transportation

Chairman: 1942 Aug - Dec: H Macmillan, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies

Secretary: 1942 Aug - Dec: F J Pedler, Colonial Office

The sub-committee considered methods of co-ordinating the inland transport of the territories lying south of the line Pointe Noire-Juba-Mombasa and the machinery required to introduce a system of inland transport zone control. Defence strategy and the urgent need to economize on shipping stimulated the development of overland communications between the South Atlantic Ocean and the Middle East; there was also a need to increase supplies of coal from Northern Rhodesia. The committee felt the territories divided naturally into three main zones: the Southern Africa Rail Circuit Zone, The Congo River Network Zone and the East African area.

CAB 95/11

Africa (Official) Committee (AF(57))

17 May 1957 - 4 Dec 1957

Meetings: 26

Papers: 8

Subjects: Africa

Chairman: 1957 May - Dec: B St J Trend, Cabinet Office

Secretaries: 1957 July: R L Briggs, Treasury

1957 Dec: T R H Godden, Colonial Office

The committee reviewed political and economic problems concerning Africa, where interdepartmental consultation was required, excluding those relating to the Suez Canal or in which Egypt or Libya were the only African states involved. It took a particular interest in the proposed 'Colombo Plan for Africa' under which the Commission for Technical Co-operation

in Africa South of the Sahara (CTTA) would provide the machinery for technical co-operation. British government concern about the Pan African Conference of Independent African States to be held in October 1957 was discussed as it was expected that anti-colonialism, early independence in the African territories and racial equality throughout the world would be on the agenda. The committee also discussed West German and American interest in development in Africa and the UN General Assembly's decision to consider the establishment of an Economic Commission for Africa.

As CAB 134/1352-1359 are closed, the information is incomplete.

CAB 134/1351-1356

Air Services to the Middle East (MISC 19)

12 Nov 1941 - 19 Mar 1942

Meetings: 3

Papers: 5

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairmen: 1941 Nov: Lord Moyne, secretary of state for the colonies

1942 Mar: Viscount Cranborne, secretary of state for the colonies

Secretary: 1941 Nov - 1942 Mar: H Everett, Ministry of Works (on loan to Cabinet)

The committee examined air services to the Middle East, their carrying capacity and their expansion. It was considered important to the morale of the Middle East troops to improve air mail service and enable the carriage of sealed letters by air.

CAB 78/2-3

Allied Demands Committee (AD)

5 Sept 1939 - 22 Nov 1939

Meetings: 5

Papers: 142

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1939 Sept - Nov: A Robinson, Ministry of Supply

Secretary: 1939 Sept - Nov: W Porter, Imperial Defence Committee

The committee examined and reported on demands from allied countries other than France, in the light of the ascertained supply position and with regard to political, strategic and financial factors. It included consideration of supplies of armaments for Iraq, but made little reference to the colonial empire.

CAB 92/18-19

Allied Liaison in the Middle East (GEN 7)

20 Apr 1943

Meetings: 1

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1943 Apr: E A Armstrong, War Cabinet Office

The committee was concerned with the provision of social and cultural amenities to allied troops in the Middle East.

CAB 78/5

Anglo-American Discussions under Article VII (GEN 19)

[1943]

Papers: 58

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1943 Sept - Oct: R K Lan, Foreign Office

1943 Sept - Oct: J J Llewellyn, minister resident in Washington for supply and Ministry of Production

Secretaries: 1943 Sept - Oct: A W Snelling, Dominions Office

1943 Sept - Oct: A S J Baster, paymaster-general

[As there is not a complete set of minutes of the UK delegation, it is not certain that these are the only chairmen and secretaries]

A UK delegation was charged with agreeing on an agenda with the US government for discussions of Article VII of the Mutual Aid Agreement and with carrying out more detailed discussions to establish policy on the separate items such as commodity regulations and international investment. The preparatory memoranda make reference to investment in the colonies and include notes of meetings of both the UK delegation and the Anglo-American group.

CAB 78/14

Anglo-Egyptian Conversations (AEC)

7 May 1936 - 21 June 1939

Meetings: 8

Papers: 4

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairmen: 1936 May: A Eden, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1936 June-July: S Baldwin, prime minister

1936 July: J Ramsay MacDonald, lord president of the Council

Secretaries: 1936 May: R I Campbell, Foreign Office

1936 May: W E Beckett, Foreign Office

(Otherwise military personnel)

The committee considered Foreign Office proposals on the Anglo-Egyptian Settlement which concerned the future position of the Suez Canal and the condominium status of the Sudan. It

speculated on movements of British troops, including emergency procedures in Palestine and Malta and strategic reserves in Cyprus.

CAB 27/607

Anti-Communist Propaganda (GEN 231)

11 May 1948 - 19 Dec 1949

Meetings: 3

Papers: 7

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1948 July - 1949 Dec: C R Attlee, prime minister

Secretaries: 1948 July: S E V Luke, Colonial Office

1948 July - 1949 Dec: N Brook, Statute Law Committee

The committee was concerned with the growing influence of communism in the colonies of the western European powers and with counteracting pro-soviet propaganda. Considerable caution was recommended as the Soviet government's achievements compared favourably with British achievements in the colonial territories. The need to develop broadcasting services and wireless stations in the colonial empire was emphasized as these had been neglected. Services in the West Indies and Africa were given a high priority. The welfare of overseas students was also considered, and the need for further hostel accommodation in London and expanded British Council facilities was stressed.

CAB 130/37

Armistice and Post-War Committee (APW)

22 Apr 1944 - 7 May 1945

Meetings: 35

Papers: 197

Subjects: international bodies and conferences; colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairmen: 1944 Apr - 1945 May: C R Attlee, lord president of the Council

1944 Aug: A Eden, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1945 May: E Bevin, minister of labour and national service

Secretaries: 1944 Apr - 1945 May: G Laithwaite, India Office

1944 Apr: P S Falla, Foreign Office

1944 May - 1945 May: A A Mocatta, War Office

Originally known as the Committee on Armistice Terms and Civil Administration, the committee examined questions affecting armistice terms and their execution, the administration of liberated or conquered territories and general political and military questions in the post-war period. It was primarily concerned with arrangements in Europe and with questions arising from the setting up of the United Nations. It discussed international colonial policy, trusteeship and the abolition of the mandate system. The US government thought it important that colonial powers should be accountable to world opinion, and Britain, protective of its sovereign rights and responsibilities in its territories, proposed the establishment of an

international colonial centre linked to the UN to which colonial powers would be required to make annual reports.

It was hoped that this would appease the US without causing too much interference in colonial affairs. Britain also proposed the development of regional commissions for the Caribbean, South Pacific, South-East Asia, West Africa, Central, Eastern and Southern Africa and North Eastern Africa to act as consultative bodies between territories in the regions. In addition the committee considered British policy in the Middle East and the importance of the region to the British commonwealth, the acquisition of rice from Siam and Burma for territories to be liberated shortly and the behaviour of public servants in Malaya under Japanese occupation.

CAB 87/66-69

Baghdad-Haifa Interdepartmental Sub-Committee (BH(S))

3 May 1930 - 5 May 1930

Meetings: 2

Papers: 2

Subjects: Middle East; oil; transportation,

Chairman: 1930 May: J E Shuckburgh, assistant under-secretary of state for the colonies

The sub-committee was set up to consider the action to be taken to ensure that the needs of the British government and the Iraq government were met in the event of a Baghdad-Mediterranean railway and pipeline being constructed. In examining the diplomatic and political implications of extending the existing pipeline to incorporate a Syrian or Haifa terminal the sub-committee took into account the competing concerns of Iraq (Iraq Petroleum Company) and France and discussed the strategic importance of the Iraq-Mediterranean Railway in its ability to facilitate rapid transport of troops, aircraft, supplies and munitions. The committee's papers include a copy of the original 1920 Agreement concerning oil interests of British and French Governments in their respective colonial territories.

CAB 27/420

Balance of Payments; Import Programmes (GEN 179)

12 May 1947 - 21 Aug 1947

Meetings: 15

Papers: 30

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 May, Aug: E Bridges, Treasury

1947 June - Aug: C R Attlee, prime minister

1947 Aug: H Morrison, lord president of the Council

Secretaries: 1947 May - June: P D Proctor, Treasury

1947 May: J A R Pimlott, Office of the Lord President

1947 June - Aug: W S Murrie, Ministry of Health (Scotland)

1947 June: S E V Luke, Colonial Office

1947 Aug: N Brook, Statute Law Committee

The committee was mainly concerned with the UK balance of payments, the import programme for 1947-1948 and the International Trade Organization. It investigated the worsening balance of payments situation and measures to improve it by drastically reducing imports, such as food and raw materials, and increasing exports. It was emphasized that food and raw material production in the colonies should be increased, thereby reducing the need to import from dollar areas and earning dollars where there was a good market in the USA. Trade talks with the USA were discussed.

CAB 130/19

Balance of Payments: Overseas Negotiations Committee (BP(ON))

18 Sept 1947 - 31 Dec 1947

Meetings: 69

Papers: 174

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1947 Sept - Dec: T L Rowan, Treasury, officer of the Ministry for Economic Affairs

Secretary: 1947 Sept - Dec: Mrs J G Marsh, Board of Trade

The committee was set up to prepare a programme for Britain's balance of payments as a whole and to advise on the general principles of trade and financial negotiations with overseas countries and detailed negotiations with individual countries. Its work was to be closely related to, and largely dependent on, the work of the Exchange Requirements Committee (qv) and the Committee on Exports (qv). Its discussions made reference to the sterling area and colonial markets, trade and import programmes. It continued as the Overseas Negotiations Committee (qv).

CAB 134/46-48

Balance of Payments Committee: Sub-Committee on Statistics (BP(STAT))

6 Nov 1947 - 19 Mar 1953

Meetings: 30

Papers: 34

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 Nov - 1948 Apr: R G D Allen, Treasury

1948 May - 1952 Mar: S Goldman, Treasury

1952 Sept - 1953 Mar: F R P Vinter, Treasury

Secretaries: 1947 Dec: Mrs J G Marsh, Board of Trade

1950 Mar - Oct: Mrs C Tylden-Patterson, Treasury

1951 Mar - Sept: D M Hawke, Treasury

1952 Mar - 1953 Mar: R L Major, Treasury

The committee provided a forum to discuss and disseminate information on statistical problems connected with the balance of payments. Its concerns included the sterling area deficit with the USA, UK exports to the sterling area, import programmes and export targets.

When the sub-committee was dissolved on 31 May 1954 its work was met by the Programmes Committee (qv) and by the regular publication of white papers on the UK balance of payments.

See also Committee on Balance of Payments Prospects; Committee on Balance of Payments Prospects: Statistical Sub-Committee.

CAB 134/49-50

Basra Committee (BC(41))

11 Apr 1941 - 14 Apr 1941

Meetings: 2

Papers: 2

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1941 April: L S Amery, secretary of state for India

The committee was set up to examine, as a matter of urgency, the establishment of a large aircraft assembly and repair park at Basra, Iraq, for American aircraft shipped direct from the USA for use in the Middle East. It considered the strategic position, administration, facilities and security of the port of Basra.

CAB 95/5

Beam Wireless Committee (BW)

29 Nov 1927 - 19 Dec 1927

Meetings: 3

Papers: 9

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1927 Nov - Dec: J Gilmour, secretary of state for Scotland

Secretary: 1927 Nov - Dec: R B Howorth, Treasury

The success of the four beam wireless services between the UK and Australia, Canada, India and South Africa produced a crisis in the affairs of the Eastern Company, which had a monopoly over telegraph traffic with South Africa, and the Pacific Cable Board. The committee was set up to examine the situation and make recommendations before the falling revenue became a liability on the participating governments, which were the UK, Australia, Canada and New Zealand. The committee proposed a conference, including representatives for Southern Rhodesia and the dependent territories.

CAB 27/356

British Commonwealth Talks: Western European Customs Union (CU(H)(BC)(47))

27 Nov 1947 - 15 Dec 1947

Meetings: 3

Papers: 9

Subjects: Commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1947 Nov: A G Bottomley, Board of Trade
 Secretary: 1947 Dec: S L Holmes, Board of Trade

The committee was concerned with how to combine the commonwealth preferential system of tariffs with possible UK participation in a European customs union.

See also Commonwealth Talks on Customs Unions: The United Kingdom Delegation.

CAB 133/39

British Joint Staff Mission

See Chiefs of Staff Committee: British Joint Staff Mission

British Washington Committee

See European Recovery Programme (British Washington Committee)

Bulk Indents for Medical Supplies to the Middle East (GEN 16)

30 July 1943 - 30 July 1943

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1943 July: A S Gilbert, Board of Trade

The committee considered the advice and recommendations in the report of Messrs Saul and Shaw to the Middle East Supplies Committee (qv) and came to conclusions regarding bulk indents of medical supplies to the Middle East, especially to Iraq, Egypt and Palestine. It felt that the question of what form of control was being adopted in Cyprus and Aden should be referred and suggested that a similar scheme to that in Palestine might be applied.

CAB 78/11

Burma (GEN 278)

24 Feb 1949 - 8 Mar 1949

Meetings: 5

Papers: 1

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; foodstuffs

Chairman: 1949 Feb - Mar: C R Attlee, prime minister
 Secretary: 1949 Feb: S E V Luke, Colonial Office

The committee considered the deteriorating situation in Burma, which was thought to be of great importance to the affairs of the whole of South-East Asia. In addition to the communist rebellion there was large scale fighting between the Karens and the Burmese government forces. The possibility of financing the rice crop was raised as Britain depended on Burma to

supply rice to its colonies in South-East Asia and Hong Kong, and Burmese political parties and personalities were reviewed.

CAB 130/45

Ceylon Constitution (GEN 3)

12 Apr 1943 - 13 May 1943

Meetings: 2

Papers: 1

Subjects: constitutional development; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1943 Apr - May: J Anderson, lord president of the Council

Secretary: 1943 Apr - May: W L Gorell Barnes, Privy Council

The committee was concerned with the alterations to the Ceylon constitution made by the secretary of state for the colonies in response to War Cabinet criticisms. The suggested amendments were forwarded to the Ceylon ministers for comment and their response was the subject of the committee's second meeting. The amendments were then sent to the War Cabinet for approval.

See also Colonial Affairs Committee.

CAB 78/5

Chiefs of Staff Committee (COS)

2 Sept 1939 - 30 Dec 1946

Meetings: 3030

Papers: 7252

Subjects: defence

The Chiefs of Staff Committee was formed in 1923 as a sub-committee of the Committee of Imperial Defence (see Sections 1.3.1 and 1.3.6). Its importance grew steadily over the years. The Chiefs of Staff Committee superseded it in 1939. As the war developed the increasing pressure on the time and energy of the Chiefs of Staff prompted the government to appoint, in April 1940, three vice-chiefs of staff who acted as substitutes for their chiefs and whose meetings counted equally as meetings of the Chiefs of Staff Committee. In May the committee was placed under the supervision and direction of a minister of defence who was also the prime minister.

The committee then took on a highly important role in the control of the conduct of the war and the armed forces. It examined weekly résumés of the naval, military and air situation, including comments on the forces in the theatres in the Middle East, Africa and Far East. The Middle East was of vital concern, and the committee examined military policy there as well as questions in individual territories, such as the military implications of policy in Palestine and the defence of Aden. Malta became increasingly important and its use as a base for offensive operations was discussed. The importance of the West African Command increased with the development of the trans-African routes and of the base at Freetown for sea communications

via the Cape. The defence and functions of military bases in West and East Africa were considered, as were the establishment of an East African command under the War Office and the appointment of a resident minister in West Africa to ensure the effective co-operation of civil and military forces. As war spread, Far Eastern policy was examined and the administration of the South-East Asia Command became a major concern. The extensive memoranda produced by the chiefs of staff included papers on the defence of particular territories such as Singapore, Ceylon and the Falkland Islands and on supply questions such as equipment for Malaya and the rubber shortage. Post-war organization was considered towards the end of the war.

See also: CAB 99/23-25, 29 for records of meetings held at Malta, Cairo, Teheran and on board *Queen Mary* at Quebec; CAB 99/31 for meetings and memoranda held in Malta and the Crimea 1945; and CAB 99/39 for records of proceedings at the 1945 Berlin Conference. The records of the Chiefs of Staff Committee and its sub-committees continue in DEFE classes. There is related material in the records of the Combined Chiefs of Staff and its sub-committees.

CAB 79/1-92 & CAB 80/1-107

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Defence Arrangements for the Indian Ocean Area (DIO)

1 Jan 1942 - 8 Jan 1943

Meetings: 22

Papers: 135

Subjects: defence

The committee examined and made proposals for implementing the defence requirements for naval and air bases in the Indian Ocean area by denying vital areas to the enemy. The bases it examined included Ceylon, the Seychelles (an advanced flying base and fuelling base for light aircraft), Mauritius (where Grand Port was required as an operational base) and Aden. It also looked at the functions of East African bases in Dar es Salaam, Lindi and Mombasa and the allotment of anti-aircraft equipment in Malaya. From 1942 it reviewed anti-aircraft requirements throughout the world. West African bases and defence of the Falkland Islands were also discussed. The committee was amalgamated with the Port Defence Committee (qv) to form the Defence of Bases Committee (qv).

CAB 81/4-6

Chiefs of Staff Committee: British Joint Staff Mission (MM(S))

1941 - 1952

Meetings: 323

Papers: 351

Subjects: defence

The British Joint Staff Mission in Washington, known as the BJSM, consisted of very senior officers from each of the services who represented their chiefs of staff in contact with the US Chiefs of Staff and other highly placed American civil and military officials. The purpose of

the mission was to bring about close military co-operation between the USA and the UK during the war. This involved reaching an agreement on operations, many of them involving the colonial territories. BJSM considerations included the defence of Fiji and Tonga; new procedures for planning cargo shipping to West Africa; developing the Trans African 'Afloc' supply route for vehicles and equipment to East Africa and the Middle East; relieving congestion at Fijian ports in order that the export of sugar should not be interrupted; and exchanging information and experience of military missions, mainly in the Middle East.

The records in CAB 138 are a bound incomplete set of the minutes of meetings and memoranda of the BJSM and combined committee on which it was represented. They were sent by the Washington office to the War Cabinet Secretariat. The wanting papers may be on the BJSM files which are in CAB 122.

CAB 138/1-8

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Defence of Bases Committee (DBC)

12 Feb 1943 - 20 Dec 1945

Meetings: 31

Papers: 345

Subjects: defence

The standing committee resulted from the amalgamation of the Port Defence Committee (qv) and the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Defence Arrangements for the Indian Ocean Area (qv). It examined and made proposals for all defence requirements of naval and air bases at home (except air defence) and in British spheres of responsibility abroad (except ports and bases used in connection with operation 'round-up' or other projected operations). Its concerns included a review of the defence of East and West Africa, Ceylon, the Gulf of Aden, Jamaica and the Falkland Islands (where an attack from Argentina was thought possible). It discussed reduction in anti-aircraft defence in Malta, the scale of likely attacks on various bases, naval base requirements and defence in the Indian Ocean and Middle East bases and their functions. It prepared monthly reviews of fixed coast defences at defended ports at home and abroad and of anti-aircraft defences at ports abroad.

CAB 81/7-11

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Deputy Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee (DCOS)

4 Sept 1939 - 6 Jan 1947

Meetings: 73

Papers: 247

Subjects: defence

The sub-committee was concerned with defence at home and abroad. It examined the scale of reserve supplies for troops in the Middle East, the maintenance of the Middle East overland routes, possible overland routes from Mombasa and Basra to Egypt, the Baghdad-Haifa Road and anti-aircraft defence in Aden and Gibraltar. Other considerations included defence measures for the colonies in the event of war with Italy, the formation of an African division of

troops in Kenya and the question of air raid precautions in the colonies, including the necessity for blackouts in East Africa, Malta and Ceylon.

CAB 82/1-12

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Inter-service Personnel Movement Co-ordinating Committee (PMC)

26 Feb 1946 - 12 Nov 1946

Meetings: 6

Papers: 25

Subjects: defence

The committee examined service requirements for personnel movement, which required central control in order to make the most economical use of all the available facilities for personnel movement. It handled aspects of air trooping not covered by the London Transport Priorities Board. It was concerned with the repatriation of colonial troops, for instance from the Middle East to East and West Africa, and it looked especially at the shipping requirements for British West Indian Air Force personnel released after service in the UK.

CAB 81/73

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Administrative Planning Committee

See Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Administrative Planning Staff

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Administrative Planning Staff (JAP)

[1942 - 1946]

Papers: 305

Subjects: defence

Established as the Joint Administrative Planning Committee, it became the Joint Administrative Planning Staff in 1944. It assisted the Joint Planning Staff with administrative matters. Transportation was a major concern, and British shipping capacity for cargo and personnel was examined. When the Mediterranean was closed to alien shipping the committee examined the possibility of moving personnel and stores overland to the Middle East and East Africa Commands via the West and South coasts of Africa. Other subjects considered included the use of the Cocos Islands as a staging post, hospital ships and the evacuation of casualties in the Far East and the possibility of using Italian prisoners of war to alleviate the labour shortage in Ceylon. After the war it considered using East Africa as a military base and developing a line of communication across Africa as well as British requirements of Middle East oil.

CAB 84/87-91

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Planning Committee: Joint Planning Sub-Committee: Inter-Service Planning (JP(ISPS))

[1940]

Papers: 34

Subjects: defence

The sub-committee examined projects in detail and prepared co-ordinated operational and administrative plans on an inter-service basis. Initially it considered the organization of operations in the Atlantic islands. Later, operations in the Middle East were examined. Finally, it examined operations such as 'MENACE' and 'ACCORDION' which were concerned with the defence of Freetown and British assistance to the free French in West Africa.

CAB 84/93

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Planning Staff (JP)

3 Sept 1939 - [2 Jan 1947]

Meetings: 608

Papers: 4421

Subjects: defence

As one of the principal subordinate bodies to the chiefs of staff, the Joint Planning Staff looked at the general strategy and planning of the war and evaluated existing strengths and programmes throughout the empire. In the early war years, its major concerns were military policy in the Middle East and the defence of British interests in West Africa in the light of possible French hostility in the region. The defence of Freetown was of increasing importance to sea communications via the Cape and as a naval base and convoy assembly port. As the war spread to the Far East the committee became primarily concerned with operations to defeat Japan and recapture British territories. It examined the reorganization of the military commands in South-East Asia and the South-West Pacific. Miscellaneous considerations included the possible use and terms of US bases in the West Indies, the use of Gibraltar as a naval base, the use of the Cocos Islands as a staging post between Ceylon and Australia and long term problems such as post-war strategic requirements. After the war ended the committee looked at future policy in various territories such as Malta and Ceylon, strategic concerns regarding policy in Palestine, taking into account the work of the Anglo-American committee of inquiry, and the terms of trusteeship for mandated territories in Africa. In 1946 it considered setting up local defence committees in the colonies, for instance in Aden, Kenya and Malaya, and imperial defence in general.

CAB 84/1-86

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Technical Warfare Committee (TWC)

30 Nov 1943 - 18 Dec 1945

Meetings: 40

Papers: 132

Subjects: defence; Far East/South-East Asia

Set up to co-ordinate and direct the technical study of operational projects and problems, the committee supported a request from Lord Mountbatten to set up an operational research section for the South-East Asia Command. It also considered the effects of a disruption of Japanese trade, for instance shipping, and its ramifications for the region, including Singapore and Hong Kong.

CAB 81/23 and part of CAB 81/26 are closed, so the numbers of meetings and memoranda are incomplete.

CAB 81/23-26

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Port Defence Committee (PDC)

25 Nov 1939 - 1 Jan 1943

Meetings: 40

Papers: 279

Subjects: defence

The committee advised the chiefs of staff on matters connected with coast defences at home and coast and anti-aircraft defence at ports abroad. It looked at the defence of many colonial ports, such as Hong Kong, Singapore, Port Sudan, Aden and ports in West and East Africa and the West Indies. It considered requests from colonial governments in Africa for coast and anti-aircraft defences and examined the defence of hitherto undefended ports of commercial importance such as Jesselton, North Borneo (rubber) and Nigerian ports (tin, manganese, oil seeds, vegetable oils, cocoa and shipping). It produced reviews of fixed coast defences at defended ports at home or abroad and of anti-aircraft defences at ports abroad.

The committee was amalgamated with the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Defence Arrangements for the Indian Ocean Area (qv) in February 1943 to form the Defence of Bases Committee (qv). See under Chiefs of Staff Committees.

CAB 81/1-3

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Post-Hostilities Planning Committee (PHP & PHP(O))

9 Aug 1943 - 19 May 1944

Meetings: 65

Papers: 194

Subjects: defence

The committee prepared draft instruments for the formal suspension of hostilities with enemy powers and submitted plans for their enforcement by armistice and disarmament commissions. It considered post-war strategic problems of major importance, replied to official enquiries on military questions relating to the post-hostilities period and advised the Ministerial Committee on Reconstruction Problems. Its concerns were broad and included some consideration of colonial questions such as British strategic interests in the Palestine area; security of empire interests in South-East Asia, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean; and the future of Gibraltar.

CAB 81/40-46

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Principal Administrative Officers Committee (CSA & CSA(O))

9 May 1942 - 19 Dec 1946

Meetings: 356

Papers: 806

Subjects: defence

The committee was concerned with the administration of various military operations, such as the control of supply routes for stores and vehicles from West Africa to the East Africa and Middle East commands. The supply of petroleum to all war theatres was of major importance and included an examination of the production of oil in North Borneo. The administration of the South-East Asia Command was another major concern. The committee gave administrative instructions to the command and examined the possibility of using the Middle East as a base for its operations. It also looked at the need for co-operation in fire precautions and control in colonial and other ports due to the dangerous cargoes and rapid turn around of shipping brought about by the war effort. In addition, it dealt with questions relating to the war against Japan, including an examination of the use of Singapore as an operational base; the possibility of a line of communications across Africa from west to east; the establishment of a military base in East Africa; the difficulties caused by the requisitioning of premises by British forces in Hong Kong, Malaya and Singapore; Middle East policy; and fuel storage in Malta.

CAB 81/28-38, 68-71

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Principal Administrative Officers Committee: Joint Movement and Transportation Committee (JMT (42)(O), JMT(42))

2 July 1942 - 29 Oct 1942

Meetings: 12

Papers: 29

Subjects: defence; transportation

The committee advised on movement and transportation aspects of potential strategic commitments and the services' potential requirements for large scale provision of shipping, port and rail development, etc, for future operations. It consulted with the Combined Military Transportation Committee in Washington on subjects requiring planning or co-ordinated action by British and American authorities. It discussed little of relevance to the colonies except the development of port facilities and transportation in West Africa. When it was abolished in November 1942 the Joint Administrative Planning Committee was formed in its place, which in turn became the Joint Administrative Planning Staff (qv) in 1944.

CAB 81/39

Chiefs of Staff Committee: Radio Direction Finding Policy Sub-Committee (RDF)

4 July 1941 - 6 Feb 1942

Meetings: 18

Papers: 76

Subjects: defence

The sub-committee determined rapid direction finding policy for the three services. It was concerned with allocating equipment to the Middle East, Malta and the Indian Ocean, including Burma, Ceylon and Tanganyika (Dar es Salaam). In addition it reviewed rapid direction finding facilities in Gibraltar.

CAB 81/12

China and South-East Asia Committee (SAC)

24 Apr 1949 - 2 Jan 1950

Meetings: 9

Papers: 28

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1949 Mar - 1950 Jan: C R Attlee, prime minister

1949 Apr: E Bevin, secretary of state for foreign affairs

Set up to consider major policy questions on China and South-East Asia, the committee was mainly preoccupied with the communist threat in China and South-East Asia. It was particularly interested in the defence of Hong Kong and the problems of internal order. It also looked at the trade of strategic goods and materials and at commonwealth conferences on South-East Asia and sterling balances.

CAB 134/669-670

Civil Air Transport British Commonwealth Conversations (ATL)

11 Oct 1943 - 13 Oct 1943

Meetings: 3

Papers: 4

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; transportation

Chairman: 1943 Oct: Lord Beaverbrook, lord privy seal

Secretaries: 1943 Oct: E S A Baynes, Dominions Office

1943 Oct: J H Riddock, Air Ministry

1943 Oct: B St J Trend, Treasury

Delegates from the commonwealth and colonies were invited to London to discuss international civil air transport. The British government proposed an international convention, with an international administrative authority, and circulated a map showing the proposed post-war principal trunk routes and colonial feeder services.

CAB 87/86

Civil Aviation Committee (CAC)

14 Sept 1945 - 14 March 1951

Meetings: 20

Papers: 68

Subjects: transportation

Chairman: 1945 Sept - 1951 Mar: Viscount Addison, secretary of state for dominions affairs

Secretaries: 1945 Sept - 1947 Apr: L J Dunnett, Ministry of Civil Aviation

1945 Sept - 1948 June: J A Drew, Customs and Excise

1945 Sept - Oct: F Thistlethwaite, Ministry of Production

1945 Jan - 1946 June: T J Salmon, National Savings

1948 Apr - 1951 Mar: T Paris, Ministry of Civil Aviation

1948 June: R J P Hewison, Foreign Office
 1948 June: S P Osmond: Ministry of Education

Established to consider and advise the Cabinet on policy matters connected with the future of civil aviation, the committee examined the two empire routes - the South African route and the Calcutta route. It also considered implications for the bases in the West Indies and Bermuda.

CAB 134/57-59

Civil Supplies to the Middle East and Persian Gulf Areas (ASE(ME))

10 Nov 1941 - 18 Mar 1942 Meetings: 12 Papers: 63

Subjects: civil supply; Middle East

Chairmen: 1941 Nov - 1942 Mar: E Grigg, War Office
 1942 Mar: A N Rucker, Office of the Resident Minister in Cairo
 Secretaries: 1941 Nov - 1942 Mar: P A Wilson, Inland Revenue
 1942 Jan - Mar: G M Smyth, no details

The committee was concerned with supplies to the Middle East, including Palestine, Aden, Iraq, Cyprus, Malta and the Sudan. While mainly interested in cereals, especially wheat, it also considered other foods, raw materials and miscellaneous requirements.

CAB 92/17

Collective Military Counter Action to meet a Japanese Attack (MISC 9)

15 Sept 1941 Meetings: 1 Papers: 1

Subjects: defence; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1941 Sept: E P Donaldson, War Cabinet Office

The committee examined a memorandum by the War Cabinet Secretariat (MISC (41) 9/1): setting out the proposed detailed arrangements to ensure a rapid collective decision for military counter action to meet a Japanese attack. It considered a list of areas, including Malaya, Singapore and Borneo, where there was information of impending or actual Japanese attacks and the action that would be required.

CAB 78/1

Colonial Affairs Committee (C)

17 Aug 1945 - 1 May 1947 Meetings: 9 Papers: 17

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairmen: 1945 Aug - 1947 May: A Greenwood, lord privy seal

1946 Jan: Viscount Addison, secretary of state for dominions affairs

Secretaries: 1945 Aug - 1946 Apr: T Smith, Colonial Office

1945 Oct - Nov: T D Salmon, Colonial Office

1946 Jan - 1947 Jan: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

1946 Jan: A H Poynton, Colonial Office

1946 Jan: W S Morgan, Colonial Office

1947 Jan: E A Armstrong, Ministry of Civil Aviation

1947 Jan: Miss M Fisher, Colonial Office

Set up to consider questions on colonial policy, the committee included as permanent members the lord privy seal, secretary of state for dominions affairs, secretary of state for India and for Burma, secretary of state for the colonies and chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster. In addition to discussing the trusteeship and general colonial policy it considered constitutions and constitutional reform, primarily for Ceylon, Malaya, and Malta. It also examined the setting up of an East African Legislative Assembly and a proposed treaty with Transjordan. Its work was taken over by the Commonwealth Affairs Committee (qv) in October 1947. In the same year the India and Burma Committee (CAB 134/341-346) took over work relating to constitutional development in Ceylon.

See also CAB 21/1739.

CAB 134/52

Colonial Military Contributions Committee (MC (27))

27 July 1927 - 29 Nov 1927

Meetings: 4

Papers: 8

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1927 July-Nov: Viscount Peel, first commissioner of works

The committee examined a proposal by the secretary of state for war that: colonies with an imperial garrison which did not contribute to its cost should do so (except Gibraltar), colonies already contributing to the cost of their imperial garrisons should continue to do so, and colonies with no imperial garrison should not be expected to contribute. The Colonial Office felt that serious political, financial and economic difficulties might arise if the proposals were adopted, particularly in Jamaica, Sierra Leone and Bermuda, which did not contribute to the imperial garrisons stationed there and were relatively poor colonies.

See also CAB 24/189.

CAB 27/352

Colonial Policy Committee (CPC)

17 Jan 1957 - 20 Dec 1957

Meetings: 17

Papers: 40

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; constitutional development

Chairmen: 1957 Jan - Feb: the Marquess of Salisbury, lord president of the Council

1957 Mar - Nov: H Macmillan, prime minister

1957 May - Dec: Viscount Kilmuir, lord chancellor

Secretaries: 1957 Jan: J N A Armitage-Smith, Colonial Office

The committee was set up to assist the Cabinet in handling constitutional development in colonial territories. In addition to looking at the future of Cyprus, a major concern, it examined the Ghana Independence Bill, changes in the constitution of Mauritius, constitutional development in Aden, demands for more legislative council seats in Kenya and for an all African executive council in Sierra Leone, the Nigerian Constitutional Conference and a draft constitution for Malta. There was concern over increasing Soviet economic influence in Africa. The committee also looked at economic and financial considerations of future constitutional governments in the colonies and reviewed political developments in Tanganyika, the electoral system in Uganda and the future of the Borneo territories. It considered a report of the Federation of Malaya Constitutional Commission.

CAB 134/1555-1556

Colonial Policy Committee (Ministerial) (CA)

1955 - 1956

Meetings: 46

Papers: 36

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; constitutional development

The committee was concerned with constitutional development and political advance in the colonies as well as with colonial policy generally. It examined constitutional advance in Malaya and the political situation in Singapore, the electoral system in Uganda and the proposed Gold Coast general election, as well as the future of the Overseas Civil Service and the powers of colonial governors to preserve order. It considered long term policy in Aden and developments in Malta, Cyprus and Gibraltar. The commonwealth status of the British Caribbean Federation and the possibility of reforming the West India Regiment were discussed. It also looked at the desirability of immigration into North Borneo where the sparse population inhibited development.

See also Official Committee on Colonial Policy. CAB 134/1201, which is retained by the department, contains minutes of meetings.

CAB 134/1201-1202

Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee (CCS)

23 Jan 1942 - 24 July 1945

Meetings: 200

Papers: 950

Subjects: defence

The committee, composed of the chiefs of staff of the armed forces of the UK and the USA, was established during the proceedings of the Washington War Conference (Arcadia), December 1941 - January 1942. It provided machinery for collaboration between the allies in terms of determining and recommending a broad programme of requirements based on strategic policy, submitting general directives on the policy for distributing available weapons of war and settling broad issues on priority for overseas movements. Its meetings were generally held in Washington where the British Joint Staff Mission (qv) was responsible to the committee and represented the chiefs of staff when they were not present in person.

While it was mainly concerned with operations in Europe, as the war developed the committee considered the operations in the Far East and the Pacific, including estimates of the enemy situation and the reorganization and future operations of the South-East Asia Command. It examined reports on the Combined Production and Resources Board, including estimates of rubber, steel and copper requirements; shipping conditions in the Indian Ocean, Middle East and Africa; and the overall shipping position. It considered the development of West African bases, particularly in Freetown, and of facilities to operate anti-submarine aircraft in West Africa and the Indian Ocean, as well as a trans-Africa supply route. It decided that the British were to be responsible for the defence of the West African air route whereas the USA would defend Ascension Island and aerodromes in Liberia. Strategies for the defence of Fiji and Tonga were also agreed. Other subjects discussed included the possibility of obtaining petroleum products from Borneo, the over-use of Trinidad as a transshipment port for urgently needed bauxite and the development of US bases in the West Indies.

See also memoranda for information (CAB 88/78-81) which were submitted to the Combined Chiefs of Staff by various committees and departments. They include several relevant papers, such as one on shipping conditions in the Middle East and Africa by the Combined Military Transportation Committee (qv). Not all of these papers were at combined chiefs of staff meetings. See also CAB 99/29 for meetings and memoranda on board *Queen Mary* and in Quebec; CAB 99/31 for meetings and memoranda held in Malta and the Crimea; and CAB 99/39 for meetings and papers held at the Berlin Conference 1945.

For details of Anglo-American combined committees see AVIA 38/259.

CAB 88/1-44

Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Combined Administration Committee (C ad C)

29 June 1943 - 18 Apr 1945

Meetings: 39

Papers: 113

Subjects: defence

The committee was primarily concerned with the administration of war-related matters in Europe, especially the organization of the Italian army. However, it also examined the requirements and supply of certain raw materials, notably reserves of aviation fuel, in war theatres including the Middle East, Mediterranean, West Africa, South Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. It also looked at the rubber situation, mainly for tyre production, and scrutinized

available sources and amounts, especially from Malaya, Sumatra and Borneo. Although the committee stopped meeting in 1945, it continued to produce papers until 1947.

CAB 88/45-48

Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Combined Meteorological Committee (CMC)

3 Nov 1942 - 18 Dec 1945

Meetings: 87

Subjects: defence

The committee was concerned with weather forecast information and meteorological services organization. Its discussions covered some colonial subjects, such as the introduction of synoptic broadcasts to South-East Asia, meteorological co-ordination between South-East Asia and adjacent theatres and the co-ordination of hurricane warnings between the USA and Bermuda.

CAB 88/82

Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Combined Military Transportation Committee (CMT)

21 Feb 1942 - 21 Dec 1945

Meetings: 96

Papers: 79

Subjects: defence; transportation

The committee was primarily concerned with shipping in relation to the war effort. It examined the shipping shortage in view of its effect on troops and cargo; port facilities, for instance Trinidad, Freetown, Mombasa, Colombo; general shipping conditions in the Middle East and Africa; and shipping losses.

CAB 88/88-95

Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Combined Staff Planners (CPS)

25 Jan 1942 - 5 May 1945

Meetings: 125

Papers: 177

Subjects: defence

The committee was concerned with the planning operations of the Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee. It considered the system of command for combined US - British operations as well as the form of agreement between the UK and USA on various issues, for instance regarding the defence of Fiji and Tonga. Although mainly concerned with Europe, it examined detailed plans for the defeat of Japan. Other subjects considered included the overall position on cargo shipping, the maintenance of Mediterranean airborne forces and the United Nations position on rubber.

As CAB 88/57-62 are retained by the department this information is incomplete.

CAB 88/50-62

Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee: Munitions Assignment Board (MBW)

16 Feb 1942 - 8 Aug 1945

Meetings: 176

Papers: 294

Subjects: defence

The committee was concerned with the requirements and availability of munitions, including armoured cars and guns, to all theatres of operations. Its considerations included oil and petroleum and it examined supply routes, for example of the Air Transport Command. The dependent territories were included under British concerns and colonial estimates were included in those for Britain as a whole.

CAB 88/83-87**Committee for the Control of Official Histories (COH(40))**

29 Apr 1940 - 14 June 1945

Meetings: 8

Papers: 65

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1940 Apr - 1941 Jan: H Ramsbotham, president of the Board of Education

1941 July - 1945 June: R A Butler, president of the Board of Education

Secretaries: 1940 Apr - 1941 July: C V Owen, no details

1941 July - 1943 Feb: Y S Yule, House of Commons Offices

1943 Feb - 1944 Feb: P Allen, Home Office

1944 Oct: M T Flett, Treasury

1944 Oct: G G Phillips, no details

1945 June: A M R Topham, Ministry of Aircraft Production

The committee was responsible for the preparation of histories of the two world wars. The slow progress of the history of the First World War in East Africa was noted. It was proposed that a general history of the Second World War should be written concerning the military and civil issues and to a lesser degree the diplomatic aspects and the part played by the empire. Consideration was given to making and cataloguing film records.

CAB 98/7-12**Committee for the Control of Official Histories: Advisory Historical Committee (COH(U))**

9 Dec 1941

Meetings: 1

Papers: 4

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1941 Dec: R A Butler, president of the Board of Education

The committee advised on the planning of the official histories of the Second World War and on the selection of historians and writers. The histories included accounts of military operations in the dependent territories, for instance in East Africa.

CAB 98/13

Committee of Civil Research (CR)

18 June 1925 - 26 Apr 1928

Meetings: 26

Subjects: research

Chairmen: 1925 June - 1926 July: the Earl of Balfour, lord president of the Council

1925 July - 1928 Apr: S Baldwin, prime minister

1925 Sept: Viscount Cave, lord chancellor

1926 Mar: A Steel-Maitland, Minister of Labour

1926 Apr: Viscount Peel, first commissioner of works

Secretary: 1925 June: N Leslie, Committee of Imperial Defence

The committee advised the government on economic, scientific and statistical research, and was responsible for appointing numerous sub-committees. Its considerations included the financial position of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad, railway development in East and West Africa and the establishment of a Sub-Committee on the Tsetse Fly (qv). The committee was succeeded by the Economic Advisory Council (qv), which expanded its functions, on 27 January 1930.

CAB 58/1

Committee of Civil Research: Irrigation Research Sub-Committee (CR/EAC (I))

8 May 1928 - 9 Apr 1930

Meetings: 10

Papers: 82

Subjects: research

Chairman: 1928 May - 1930 Apr: Sir Matthew Nathan, no details

Appointed as a sub-committee of the Committee of Civil Research, it was absorbed by the Economic Advisory Council (qv) in January 1930. In considering the need for a central empire research station for irrigation problems, it submitted a questionnaire to various governments (for instance Ceylon, British Guiana and Kenya) on their use of and research into irrigation. It also examined the effect of irrigation on insects carrying diseases (malaria and schistomiasis), agricultural research work in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and the advantages of the Sudan as a centre for irrigation research.

CAB 58/118-120

Committee of Civil Research: Kenya Native Welfare Sub-Committee (CR(K))

8 Dec 1926 - 18 May 1927

Meetings: 10

Papers: 26

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairman: 1926 Dec - 1927 May: W Graham, secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

Secretary: 1926 Dec - 1927 May: C J Jeffries, Colonial Office

The sub-committee was set up to consider and advise on proposals by the governor of Kenya to establish a native welfare research organization. There being no similar organization in the tropical dependencies, the proposal was scrutinised thoroughly. The governor felt that research into African morale, health, production and labour, and the effects of European settlement was needed; the problems in Kenya were exacerbated by the settlers' push for self-government. The committee also examined a number of other reports such as the report of the East African Commission 1926, the Kenya Native Affairs Department annual report 1925 and a report on labour in Tanganyika territory.

CAB 58/110

Committee of Civil Research: Radium Sub-Committee (CR (RS))

10 July 1928 - 4 Mar 1929

Meetings: 8

Papers: 36

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairman: 1928 July - 1929 Mar: Lord Rayleigh, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

The committee examined Britain's radium requirements and the sources of supply. Radioactive minerals had been found in Tanganyika and a search was being carried out in Northern Rhodesia.

CAB 58/117

Committee of Civil Research: Research Co-ordination Sub-Committee (CR(R))

14 Dec 1926 - 16 Apr 1929

Meetings: 28

Papers: 70

Subjects: research

Chairmen: 1926 Dec - 1929 Apr: W G A Ormsby-Gore, under-secretary of state for the colonies

1927 June - 1928 Dec: W E Elliot, under-secretary of state for Scotland

The committee was set up to consider the co-ordination of research work carried out by or under the government. It was also expected to determine whether further measures should be taken to prevent overlapping, to increase economy and efficiency and promote the application of the results obtained. It considered three main categories of research: industrial, medical and agricultural, and took account of research in the empire and of the history of inter-imperial research. The investigations excluded the work of the Imperial Institute, where laboratories were restricted to chemical and technical examinations of empire raw materials, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the Institute of Tropical Agriculture and the Empire Marketing Board.

CAB 58/106-108

Committee of Civil Research: Research Co-ordination Sub-Committee: Empire Marketing Board Sub-Committee (CR(R) (EMB))

17 Feb 1927

Meetings: 1

Papers: 2

Subjects: research; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1927 Feb: W E Elliot, under-secretary of state for Scotland

This sub-committee examined the working relations between the Empire Marketing Board, the Medical Research Council, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland. It also considered the relations between the organizations established by the British government to finance research and the Rockefeller and other American institutions.

CAB 58/198

Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Agricultural Research Organization EAC(ARO))

22 Nov 1929 - 7 Apr 1930

Meetings: 7

Papers: 28

Subjects: research

Chairmen: 1929 Nov - 1930 Apr: W Fisher, Treasury
1930 Feb: W Fletcher, Medical Research Council

Appointed as a sub-committee of the Committee of Civil Research, it was absorbed as a Committee of the Economic Advisory Council (qv) in January 1930. It was concerned with the setting up of the Agricultural Research Council and heard evidence from various people as to what the council's functions should be. It discussed the kinds of bodies that should be responsible for different aspects of colonial research and emphasized the insufficient attention given to agricultural research. It proposed that the Agricultural Research Council should act as

advisers to the Empire Marketing Board and the Colonial Development Fund on applications for grants towards agricultural research.

CAB 58/148

Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on the Cotton Industry (CR/EAC(CI)4)

2 Aug 1929 - 3 June 1930

Meetings: 25

Papers: 102

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products; research

Chairmen: 1929 Aug: W Graham, president of the Board of Trade

1929 Nov - Dec: A V Alexander, first lord of the Admiralty

1930 Feb-June: J R Clynes, secretary of state for home affairs

Secretary: 1929 Aug - 1930 Feb: H J Hutchinson, Board of Trade

Appointed as a sub-committee of the Committee of Civil Research, it was absorbed as a committee of the Economic Advisory Council (qv) in January 1930. It was responsible for examining the British cotton industry and recommending measures to improve its position in the world market. The growth of the cotton industries in Japan, India, China and the USA had meant increasing competition for export markets and Britain's share of the world market had declined. Japan, which offered the most serious competition, was marketing cotton in Malaya, Hong Kong and parts of Africa. However, the committee's main considerations were largely confined to the British industry.

CAB 58/132-135

Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Empire Supply of Quinine (CRQ)

14 June 1926

Meetings: 1

Papers: 11

Subjects: research

Chairman: 1926 June: the Earl of Balfour, lord president of the Council

Secretary: 1926 June: J F N Green, Colonial Office

The committee considered the steps the government should take to secure the production within the empire of adequate supplies of quinine. Past experiments in the colonies, for instance in Malaya, had shown that quinine was highly effective. The history of the use of Cinchona bark, from which quinine was derived, was reviewed, and the possibility of growing it in Tanganyika was discussed.

CAB 58/101

Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Locust Control (CR/EAC(L))

10 May 1929 - 17 Jan 1939

Meetings: 18

Papers: 1853

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairmen: 1929 May - 1936 Aug: A Miers, British Museum

1930 June: E B Poulton, Hope professor of zoology, Oxford

1932 Apr: L Hill, Department of Applied Physiology, Medical Research Council

1932 Aug: G A K Marshall, Imperial Institute of Entomology

1939 Jan: F A Stockdale, agricultural adviser to the secretary of state for the colonies.

Appointed as a sub-committee of the Committee of Civil Research, it was absorbed as a committee of the Economic Advisory Council (qv) in January 1930. It considered means for the mass destruction of locusts and the reasons for periodic preventive control measures in Africa. The Institute of Entomology had received a five year grant from the Empire Marketing Board to collate information on locusts and their control. In 1934 colonial governments were asked to increase their contributions towards the cost of locust investigation. The need for systematic maintenance of a unified scheme of anti-locust research was emphasized as control was considered a matter for international concern. Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, Sudan, Transjordan, Palestine, Nigeria, British Somaliland, Northern and Southern Rhodesia were particularly affected and in 1933 there was a locust occurrence in North Borneo. Because of the unpredictable movements of locusts, the focus was on different regions at different times depending on the degree of infestation. The committee looked at distribution and measures of control of each species of locust separately and also examined papers for international locust conferences.

See AY 11 for references to locust control committees.

CAB 58/55-77

Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Rubber Restriction (CR(RE))

6 Feb 1928 - 2 Apr 1928

Meetings: 27

Papers: 56

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1928 Jan - Apr: H Hambling, no details

1928 Jan - Apr: S Chapman, chief economic adviser to HM government

Following a severe price fall in the early 1920s, the supply of rubber had outstripped demand; restriction had been imposed as a protective measure and to prevent further over supply. The committee considered whether these restrictions were still valid. It was particularly concerned with Malaya and Ceylon where large amounts of British capital had been invested.

CAB 58/113-115

Committee of Civil Research: Tsetse Fly Sub-Committee (CR(TF) later EAC(TF))

26 June 1925 - 8 July 1938

Meetings: 33

Papers: 524

Subjects: Africa; raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1925 Jun - 1929 May: W G A Ormsby-Gore, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies

1928 May: L S Amery, secretary of state for dominions affairs and for the colonies

1929 Jan - 1931 July: W Fletcher, secretary, Medical Research Council

1930 Mar - 1931 July: D Shiels, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies

1930 July - Dec: G A K Marshall, director, Imperial Institute of Entomology

1931 Dec - 1932 June: R Hamilton, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies

1932 Nov - 1936 Mar: the Earl of Plymouth, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies

1937 Apr: Earl de la Warr, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies

1938 July: the Marquess of Dufferin, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies.

Secretaries: 1925 June - July: A G Bagshaw, director, Tropical Diseases Bureau

1925 June - 1931 May: G F Steel, Colonial Office

1931 Dec - 1933 May: S Caine, Colonial Office

Appointed as a sub-committee of the Committee of Civil Research, it was absorbed as a committee of the Economic Advisory Council in January 1930. It was set up to prepare a practical scheme of enquiry and action aimed at controlling the tsetse fly as a carrier of human and animal trypanosomiasis and as a curative treatment of the disease. It was also to consider the possibilities of increasing present knowledge by research work at home and overseas and of improving the co-ordination of scientific work and action in different parts of Africa. In April 1927 the committee became a standing committee which considered and reported on human and animal trypanosomiasis in the African territories.

CAB 58/31-50

Committee of Imperial Defence (CID)

18 Dec 1902 - 1 Sept 1939

Meetings: 374

Papers: 1585 Series B
514 Series C

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1925: Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, lord president of the council

1925 - 1936: S Baldwin

1929 - 1936: J R MacDonald

1937 - 1938: T Inskip, minister for co-ordination of defence

1939: Sir E Chatfield, minister for co-ordination of defence

Also N Chamberlain

The committee was set up to discuss defence questions and keep the defence situation as a whole constantly under review so as to ensure that defence preparations, plans and expenditure were co-ordinated and framed to meet policy and that full information on the changing naval,

military and air situation was always available. Shortly before the outbreak of war in 1939 the peacetime supply organization of the committee was transferred to the Ministry of Supply. When the War Cabinet was formed in September 1939 it absorbed the CID, which was not revived after the war, when many of its former concerns passed to the Ministry of Defence. See also Section 1.3.1.

CAB 2 contains the minutes of the main committee while CAB 4 includes miscellaneous memoranda on subjects other than home defence, the colonies and India, which are found in the relevant sub-committees. CAB 5 contains reports and memoranda produced by various sub-committees relating specifically to colonial defence.

CAB 2, CAB 4, CAB 5

Committee of Imperial Defence: Advisory Committee on Trade Questions in Time of War (ATB)

17 July 1924 - 11 Nov 1938

Meetings: 28

Papers: 204

Subjects: defence; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1924 July - 1925 Dec: V A A H Wellesley, Foreign Office

1924 Nov - 1927 Feb: C Hipwood, Board of Trade

1926 Mar - Nov: Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

1929 Apr: Marquess of Salisbury, lord privy seal

1931 Feb - 1933 Mar: E Crowe, Department of Overseas Trade

1933 Nov - 1938: W E Elliot, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Until April 1929 this committee was known as the Advisory Committee on Trading and Blockade in Time of War. It was set up to see that administrative machinery was prepared in advance for exerting economic pressure on an enemy in wartime, to deal with questions of organization for a future war and to see that the list of contraband was modified from time to time as occasion required. While the committee made very little direct reference to the colonies, the Colonial Office was represented throughout the proceedings. Many of the items on the contraband list came from the colonies. For more details see the papers of the committee's sub-committees in CAB 47/7-15.

CAB 47/1-6

Committee of Imperial Defence: Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee (COS)

17 July 1923 - 31 Aug 1939

Meetings: 317

Papers: 973
(plus 3 vols of
enclosures)

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1925 Jan - 1927 Oct: Earl Beatty, Admiralty (Naval Staff)

1925 Mar - 1927 Dec: S Baldwin, prime minister; 1933 May - 1935 Dec: lord president of the Council and lord privy seal
 1927 Jan - 1929 Dec: H M Trenchard, Air Ministry (Air Staff)
 1930 Feb - 1932 Dec: G F Milne, War Office (Imperial General Staff)
 1933 Feb - 1939 Aug: E M Chatfield, Admiralty (Naval Staff)
 1934 Apr: J R Macdonald, prime minister
 1935 Apr - 1936 Feb: A A Montgomery-Massingberd, King's Household (Imperial General Staff)
 1936 Mar - 1938 Sept: T Inskip, Law Officers' Department
 1937 Sept - Nov: C J Deverell, King's Household (Imperial General Staff)
 1937 Aug: W M James, Admiralty (Naval Staff)
 1938 Mar - 1939 Aug: C L N Newall, Air Ministry (Air Staff)
 1938 Aug: H R Pownall, War Office
 1938 Aug - 1939 Jan: R Backhouse, Admiralty and King's Household (Naval Staff)
 1939 Apr: Viscount Gort, no details

Appointed on the recommendation of the Salisbury Committee on National and Imperial Defence, the sub-committee investigated and considered defence questions referred to it by the CID. In addition to looking at issues concerning the defence of the entire British empire, it examined specific military issues. It considered, for instance, the possibility of reducing the Aden garrison, the situation in Iraq and the defence of Ceylon and of Singapore. The Singapore naval base was particularly important in the event of a war in the Far East. The sub-committee's memoranda were supplemented by 'enclosures' which included basic information such as the position, distribution and strengths of forces in the colonies as an aid to discussion at meetings. It was replaced by the Chiefs of Staff Committee (qv) in 1939.

CAB 53/1-54

Committee of Imperial Defence: Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee: Deputy Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee (DCOS)

8 Feb 1932 - 31 Aug 1939

Meetings: 54

Papers: 190

Subjects: defence; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1932 Feb - 1938 July: M P A Hankey, Cabinet Office, Privy Council, Committee of Imperial Defence

1935 Dec - 1937 July: W M James, Admiralty, deputy chief of Naval Staff

1936 July: J G Dill, War Office, director of military operations and intelligence

1937 Aug-Sept: R H Haining, director of military operations and intelligence

1938 Apr - 1939 Aug: R F Adam, War Office, deputy chief of Imperial General Staff

1935 Jan: A B Cunningham, Admiralty, deputy chief of Naval Staff

1939 Jan-May: R E C Perise, Air Ministry, deputy chief of Air Staff

1939 Mar: H L Ismay, Committee of Imperial Defence

1939 July-Aug: T S V Phillips, Admiralty, deputy chief of Naval Staff

1939 July: Lord Chatfield, Cabinet Office, Committee of Imperial Defence, minister for co-ordination of defence

The committee considered specific problems delegated to it by the CID Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee (qv). It prepared an appreciation of the situation which would arise in the event of Japan suddenly becoming hostile and made recommendations on measures to be adopted at short notice in respect of the defence of Hong Kong and Singapore. In 1936 the committee was instructed to review its work with the possibility of war with Germany as the focus. It dealt mainly with subjects which were not of colonial interest except insofar as the control and co-ordination of forces in Africa and the Middle East were concerned. The defence of Egypt was a major area of interest.

CAB 54/1-11

Committee of Imperial Defence: Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee: Joint Planning Sub-Committee (JP)

10 Apr 1927 - 28 Aug 1939

Meetings: 270

Papers: 573

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1927 Apr - Dec: W A Egerton, Admiralty
 1927 June - 1928 Jan: W G S Dobbie, War Office
 1928 Feb - 1930 July: R M Bellairs, Admiralty
 1930 Jan: J H D Cunningham, Admiralty
 1930 Nov - 1931 Mar: C G Liddell, War Office
 1931 Nov - 1934 Feb: R H Haining, War Office
 1932 Feb: C F A Portal, Air Ministry
 1933 Apr - Nov: H G Moore, Admiralty
 1933 May - 1935 Aug: E L S King, Admiralty
 1934 Apr; 1937 May: A T Harris, Air Ministry
 1935 Aug - 1938 Apr: T S V Phillips, Admiralty
 1935 Nov - 1936 Nov: R Adam, War Office
 1936 Aug: E N Syfret, Admiralty
 1936 Dec - 1938 July: E L Morris, War Office
 1936 Dec: R H Denning, War Office
 1937 Nov - 1939 Aug: J C Slessor, Air Ministry
 1938 July - 1939 Aug: V H Danckwerts, Admiralty
 1938 Dec - 1939 Aug: J N Kennedy, War Office

The sub-committee examined and reported on plans for combined action by the Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry as directed by the Chiefs of Staff Committee and was composed of staff officers from the three services. Its considerations included the defence of Hong Kong, Singapore, Trincomali, Egypt and the Sudan; Franco-British co-operation in West Africa; the defence of the Suez Canal; the transfer of a colonial mandate or mandates to Germany and the situation in Somaliland caused by the Italo-Abyssinia crisis.

See also CID Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee; and CID Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee Deputy Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee.

CAB 55/1-19

Committee of Imperial Defence: Chiefs of Staff Sub-Committee: Singapore Sub-Committee (SD)

7 Feb 1928 - 13 Mar 1928

Meetings: 2

Papers: 6

Subjects: defence; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1928 Feb-Mar: Webb Gillman, master general of the ordnance

Secretary: 1928 Feb-Mar: H G Eady, War Office

The sub-committee examined the level of Singapore's defences with particular reference to arrangements for the proposed naval base.

CAB 16/91

Committee of Imperial Defence: Committee on the Co-ordination of Departmental Action on the Outbreak of War (K)

5 Apr 1911 - 2 Sept 1939

Meetings: 30
(plus annual
reports)

Papers: 325

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1925 Nov - 1927 Dec: W G Tyrell, Foreign Office

1926 Dec - 1933 Dec: M P A Hankey, Cabinet Office, Privy Council Office,
Imperial Defence Committee

1928 Dec - 1929 Dec: R Lindsay, Foreign Office

1930 Dec - 1937 Feb: R Vansittart, Foreign Office

1938 Apr: A Cadogan, Foreign Office

Established to elaborate a system of co-ordination between the several departments of state on the occurrence of strained relations or on the outbreak of war and to keep this scheme up to date, the sub-committee was concerned primarily with arrangements regarding the war book. The function of the book was to provide a record of measures required to pass from a state of peace to a state of war, to inform the departments of the precise measures required at each stage of the process and to ensure that their actions were closely and continuously co-ordinated. The war book was compiled as preparation for a war which would involve the resources of the whole empire. The Colonial Office, like the other departments, had to prepare a chapter for the main book and also an internal war book to ensure the smooth working of war arrangements within the office. After the declaration of war in September 1939 these war books became obsolete and arrangements for their destruction were announced.

CAB 15/1, 2,22-24

Committee of Imperial Defence: Committee on the Co-ordination of Departmental Action on the Outbreak of War: Sub-Committee on Prefixes for Urgent Government Messages (UGM)

21 Jan 1931

Meetings: 1

Papers: 4

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: 1931 Jan: H Montgomery, Foreign Office

The sub-committee examined and revised part of the work of the CID Sub-Committee on Co-ordination of Departmental Action: Sub-Committee on the Transmission of Government Messages (qv). There was no specific mention of the colonies, but procedural changes would have affected the whole empire.

CAB 15/26

Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee (ICC)

1919 - 1929

Meetings: 109

Papers: 1815

Subjects: defence; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1925 Jan - 1929 Apr: L S Amery, secretary of state for dominions affairs and the colonies

1927 Feb: F H Sykes, no details

1927 Oct - Dec: S H Wilson, permanent under-secretary for the colonies

1929 July - 1931 July: Lord Passfield, secretary of state for dominions affairs and for the colonies

1929 July - 1936 Mar: R V Vernon, Colonial Office

1932 Apr - 1935 Apr: P Cunliffe-Lister, secretary of state for the colonies

1936 Mar: J H Thomas, secretary of state for the colonies

1936 June - 1937 June: W G A Ormsby-Gore, secretary of state for the colonies

1937 Jan - 1939 Feb: F W Philips, General Post Office

1938 Oct - 1939 July: Earl de la Warr, lord privy seal

1939 May: C W Nutting, Air Ministry

Secretary: 1937 Jan - 1939 July: C N Ryan, no details

The committee considered policy questions on overland telegraphy, wireless telegraphy, submarine cables and visual signalling. It was concerned with communications throughout the empire and dealt with both general questions such as the colonial wireless system and specific matters such as problems at the St George's Wireless Telegraph Station at Bermuda. It set up various sub-committees to deal with its wide terms of reference.

For the records of the Committee before 1925 see CAB 35/1-18.

CAB 35/15-35

Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Strategic Cables Sub-Committee (ICC(SC))

15 Dec 1932 - 12 Jan 1933

Meetings: 3

Papers: 9

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: 1932 Dec - 1933 Jan: O Stanley, Home Office

The sub-committee was established to re-examine the recommendations of the CID Imperial Communications Committee (qv) as to which cables were essential and recommend whether cable communication should continue to be regarded as superior to wireless communication for certain classes of messages in terms of security. It decided that sufficient improvement had been made in Gibraltar and Malta, where other links such as London-Singapore via Alexandria could cope with the extra traffic. Other cable links were scheduled as strategic such as the Zanzibar - Seychelles which was the only link between East Africa and India.

CAB 35/45

Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Sub-Committee on Allocation of Short-Wave Lengths (SWA)

22 May 1928 - 8 Nov 1928

Meetings: 5

Papers: 40

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairmen: 1928 May - Nov: L F Blandy, Air Ministry

1928 June: M G Simpson, India Office

Secretaries: 1928 May - Nov: G B Williams, Air Ministry

1928 Aug: J A V Echevarri, Wireless Telegraph Board

The sub-committee examined and made recommendations on wave requirements for projected British wireless services and on the various technical problems allied to the general question of the international allocation of short-wave channels. It was concerned to ensure that all parts of the empire would be able to use the short-wave lengths without mutual interference and without interference from the wireless services of foreign countries. As background information it compiled a list of existing short-wave stations throughout the empire and examined the possibilities of setting them up in territories which had no station, such as British East Africa, or which needed further facilities, such as Hong Kong.

CAB 35/40

Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Sub-Committee on Competition Between 'Beam' Wireless and Cable Services (BWC)

14 Oct 1927 - 5 Dec 1927

Meetings: 3

Papers: 8

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: 1927 Oct-Dec: S H Wilson, Colonial Office

The sub-committee examined the possibility of long or short-wave services becoming partially or wholly useless due to jamming or interference with cables in time of war. It also considered whether the retention of cables in wartime was an absolute necessity for certain classes of government messages on account of their alleged superior degree of secrecy over that of the wireless. It produced two reports, one dealing exclusively with communications between the UK and Australia and New Zealand and the other with communication routes in other parts of the world.

CAB 35/43

Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Sub-Committee on Technical Wireless Regulations (TWR)

7 Apr 1925 - 4 Jan 1927

Meetings: 44

Papers: 109

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairmen: 1925 Apr - 1927 Jan: L F Blandy, Air Ministry

1925 June: W H Eccles, Radio Society of Great Britain (acting chairman)

1926 Feb - Mar: F G Loring, General Post Office

Secretary: 1925 Apr - 1927 Jan: G B Williams, Air Ministry

The sub-committee was established to draft technical wireless regulations applicable to Great Britain and Northern Ireland and suitable for adoption by other governments of the empire. It was supposed to invite representatives from the Colonial Office when questions affecting the colonies were to be discussed, but this appears not to have happened. It did, however, prepare reports of its work as it affected particular territories. These were sent to officials in the colonies, who replied making observations.

CAB 35/36-39

Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Sub-Committee on the Colonial Wireless System (CWS)

9 Mar 1926 - 9 Feb 1927

Meetings: 9

Papers: 60

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: 1926 Mar - 1927 Feb: S H Wilson, Colonial Office

The sub-committee examined the existing and projected wireless communication systems throughout the empire and invited the dominion governments to furnish reports on their communication systems and their capabilities of maintaining communications with stations in

the colonies. It made recommendations on developing communications within the empire and between Britain and the empire including the most distant parts.

CAB 35/41-42

Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee: Wireless Sub-Committee (WT)

10 Apr 1919 - 4 Feb 1927

Meetings: 37

Papers: 264

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: 1927 Feb: F H Sykes, no details

Before 1925 the sub-committee was concerned with the colonies, but between 1925 and 1927 it made no reference to them, its main concern being with licences for private experimental wireless stations.

CAB 35/9-11/2

Committee of Imperial Defence: Interdepartmental Sub-Committee on Preparation for the Disarmament Conference (RAI)

22 Oct 1931 - 20 Nov 1931

Meetings: 9

Papers: 17

Subjects: defence; international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1931 Oct - Nov: C H Smith, Foreign Office

1931 Oct - Nov: A M G Cadogan, Foreign Office

This sub-committee carried on the preparations initiated by the CID Sub-Committee on the Disarmament Conference (qv). Little direct reference was made to the colonies, but their involvement was implicit in the general discussion.

CAB 16/104

Committee of Imperial Defence: Joint Oversea and Home Defence Committee (JDC)

24 Mar 1920 - 11 July 1939

Meetings: 68

Papers: 518

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1925 Oct - 1938 May: M P A Hankey, Cabinet Office, Committee of Imperial Defence, Privy Council

1926 Dec: S H Wilson, permanent under-secretary of state for the colonies

1934 Nov - Dec: J L Maffey, Colonial Office 1936 Oct - 1939 June: H L Ismay, Committee of Imperial Defence

1939 Apr - July: L C Hollis, Committee of Imperial Defence

For the most part the committee was concerned with the defence of strategic ports such as those in Malta, Sierra Leone and Gibraltar in terms of the possible scale of attack and the existing and proposed armaments. The defence of other territories such as Bermuda, Singapore, Hong Kong, Penang, Aden, Trinidad, Jamaica and the Gold Coast became more pressing as tension increased in Europe before the outbreak of the Second World War.

See also AIR 2/2695/S 35707 (1935-1937).

CAB 36/1-13

Committee of Imperial Defence: Joint Oversea and Home Defence Committee: Sub-Committee on the Defence of British Ports Oversea, Mediterranean Ports (DOP(M))

14 June 1928 - 9 Oct 1931

Meetings: 4

Papers: 28

Subjects: defence; Mediterranean

Chairman: 1928 June - 1931 Oct: S H Wilson, permanent under-secretary of state for the colonies

Set up to consider and report on the scale of attack to which oversea British ports might be subjected and the scale of defence required to meet such attacks, the sub-committee was particularly concerned with Malta and Gibraltar. Its work formed part of a comprehensive investigation into the defences of the coastal regions of the empire.

CAB 36/21

Committee of Imperial Defence: Official Sub-Committee on Abyssinia (AC(O))

29 July 1935 - 3 Oct 1935

Meetings: 6

Papers: 34

Subjects: Africa; defence

Chairmen: 1935 July-Aug: G Mounsey, Foreign Office

1935 Sept - Oct: M D Peterson, Foreign Office

Secretary: 1935 July - Oct: J H U Lambert

Set up to deal with questions on Abyssinia referred to it by government departments, the sub-committee was concerned with the mobilization of British troops for frontier defence in the event of Italo-Ethiopian hostilities. It considered the availability of forces from Kenya, Somaliland, Sudan and India. After the outbreak of the Italo-Abyssinian war it continued to act in an advisory capacity, but reported directly to the CID Sub-Committee on Defence Policy and Requirements (qv) rather than to the CID.

CAB 16/121

Committee of Imperial Defence: Oil Board (OB)

23 June 1925 - 28 July 1939

Meetings: 45

Papers: 346

Subjects: defence; oil

Chairmen: 1925 June - 1929 Apr: E Stanhope, Admiralty

1929 July - 1931 July: G Hall, Admiralty

1932 May - 1935 July: G Hall, Admiralty

1933 July - 1934 Oct: Marquess of Londonderry, Air Ministry

1935 Sept - 1936 Oct: K Lindsay, Admiralty

1936 Nov - 1937 June: W G A Ormsby-Gore, Colonial Office

1937 July - 1939 May: J J Llewellyn, Admiralty

1938 Feb: T Inskip, Law Officers' Department

1939 July: W S Morrison, Duchy of Lancaster

Secretaries: 1925 June - 1936 July: R A Pitcher, Admiralty

1925 June - 1936 Feb: C E W Justice, Board of Trade

1931 July - 1936 July: W B Stanton, Admiralty

1934 Oct - 1936 Dec: A W Clarke, Board of Trade

1936 July - 1939 July: F J Coleman, Mines Department

1926 Oct - 1938 May: W F Mitchell, Admiralty

1938 July - 1939 July: S Harlow, Admiralty

The board was established to collect and examine information regarding departmental estimates of oil and tanker tonnage requirements for all purposes should there be a war. Before 1934 it based its work on the assumption that the British empire might be involved in a war in the Far East. It therefore examined the oil position of Hong Kong, Malaya and Ceylon, one of which might serve as the British base in time of war. One of its primary concerns was to keep the main British source of oil within the empire. The oil industry in Trinidad was therefore vital and the board examined it extensively. It also dealt with enquiries from the East African dependencies as to whether their oil requirements would be met in an emergency.

CAB 50/1-8

Committee of Imperial Defence: Oil Board: Oil Fuel Board Sub-Committee (OB(SC) and OB(SC)1928)

Nov 1925 - 9 Mar 1933

Meetings: 8

Papers: 18

Subjects: defence; oil

Chairmen: 1925 - Dec 1928: E Stanhope, Admiralty

1929 Oct - 1930 Dec: G Hall, Admiralty

1932 July - 1933 Mar: E Wallace, Board of Trade

Secretary: 1925 - 1928 Dec: R A Pitcher, Admiralty

The sub-committee, which met first in 1925 and then again in 1928, collected and examined information regarding supplies, sources of production and tanker tonnage in relation to the various requirements of the empire in time of war, acting on the supposition that (1) the USA was a friendly neutral and (2) the USA was an unfriendly neutral. It reported on the steps that would be necessary to meet those requirements and examined the effect on empire requirements of the construction of an oil pipeline from Iraq to the Mediterranean.

CAB 50/9

Committee of Imperial Defence: Oil Board: Sub-Committee on Petroleum Products Reserves (OB(PR))

27 Feb 1936 - 4 July 1939

Meetings: 24

Papers: 212

Subjects: defence; oil

Chairmen: 1936 Feb - 1938 Dec: H F C Crookshank, Mines Department

1939 Mar: J J Llewellyn, Admiralty

1939 July: G Lloyd, Mines Department

Secretaries: 1936 Feb - 1937 Jan: A W Clarke, Board of Trade

1936 Feb 1939 July: G W C Norfolk, Mines Department

The sub-committee was concerned with keeping supplies of petroleum products at an adequate level in the UK and in the empire. It therefore examined all the major oil-producing territories and countries, such as Iraq and Trinidad, in terms of output of crude oil, number of refineries and exports. It was also concerned with the storage of oil and thus with the establishment of tankers in the East African dependencies and the possibilities of storage of aviation fuel in Malta. One of the main concerns was that in the event of a European war the Mediterranean might be closed to shipping, which would stop oil supplies reaching the UK and a great part of the empire. Alternative routes were examined, mainly around the Cape, which meant that oil could be supplied effectively from Borneo and Sumatra. This sub-committee was suspended on the outbreak of war in September 1939.

CAB 50/13-17

Committee of Imperial Defence: Oversea Defence Committee (ODC/ODCM)

22 Apr 1885 - 26 July 1939

Meetings: 390

Papers: 1770

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1925 Apr: H Lambert, no details

1925 Oct - 1933 Nov: S H Wilson, Colonial Office

1928 Oct - 1929 June: G E A Grindle, Colonial Office

1932 Nov - 1936 Oct: J E Shuckburgh, Colonial Office

1933 Dec - 1936 July: J L Maffey, Colonial Office

Established to consider and co-ordinate defence issues relating to oversea dominions and colonies referred to it by the various departments and the CID, the sub-committee was a standing consultative and advisory body with no executive or administrative powers. It advised and worked out details of questions relating to the dependent territories and the dominions with which the Admiralty, Air Ministry, War Office, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, India Office, Foreign Office and Treasury were individually or collectively concerned. Between 1925 and 1939 the sub-committee was largely concerned with the organization of forces and the establishment of defence schemes in the oversea territories, such as the provision of a reserve of officers for the King's African Rifles or the necessity of a defence force in British Honduras. It considered the establishment of defence schemes for the colonies (see also CAB 11) and miscellaneous defence matters such as ammunition reserves in Northern Rhodesia, the censorship scheme in Egypt and Sudan, air navigation regulations in Singapore and food supplies for the civil population of Hong Kong in the event of war. When the CID went into abeyance at the outbreak of the war the sub-committee continued its work as the Oversea Defence Committee (qv).

See also Committee of Imperial Defence: Oversea Defence Committee: Sub-Committee on the Composition and Organization of Local Forces.

CAB 7/7-15; CAB 9-CAB 11

Committee of Imperial Defence: Oversea Defence Committee: Sub-Committee on the Composition and Organization of Local Forces (LF)

22 Oct 1925 - 7 May 1929

Meetings: 16

Papers: 17

Subject: defence

Chairman: 1929 Oct - 1929 May: G E A Grindle, Colonial Office

Secretary: 1928 Jan - 1929 May: G L M Clauson, Colonial Office

The sub-committee was appointed to examine colonial defence problems and the composition and organization of the local defence forces to ascertain whether the arrangements were adequate and appropriate and to prevent undue competition between the various services for the limited available personnel. It examined the formation of local defence committees in each territory, the means of increasing the popularity of service in the local forces and the registration of reliable local elements who could be utilized for civilian service in the case of grave emergencies. The sub-committee then dealt with particular defence problems in territories in sequence: East of the Suez (with Malaya taking priority), West Africa, East and South Africa, Mediterranean, West Indies, the Americas and islands in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It also made recommendations to the CID Oversea Defence Committee (qv) which wanted to advise local governments on the type of defence units to maintain and the methods of ensuring efficiency.

CAB 7/16-17

Committee of Imperial Defence: Palestine Garrison Sub-Committee (PGS)

29 May 1930

Meetings: 1

Papers: 5

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1930 May: Lord Passfield, secretary of state for the colonies

The sub-committee's task was to examine the nature of the future garrison in Palestine, the suggested transfer of control from the Air Ministry to the War Office and the control of operations in the event of reinforcements being sent to Palestine. The close connection between the defence systems of Palestine and Transjordan added complexity to the sub-committee's work.

See also AIR 8/113.

CAB 16/97

Committee of Imperial Defence: Persian Gulf Sub-Committee (PG)

2 July 1928 - 18 Mar 1929

Meetings: 9

Papers: 39

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairmen: 1928 July: A Chamberlain, secretary of state for foreign affairs
1928 Oct - 1929 Mar: Lord Hailsham, lord chancellor

Created to examine British policy in the Persian Gulf, the sub-committee was mainly concerned with questions arising out of air operations in Southern Arabia against the Imam of Yemen and along the south-east frontier of Iraq against the Akhwan. It considered such issues as the reorganization of the intelligence services in Transjordan, Iraq and Aden; the extension of Colonial Office responsibilities to include Kuwait, the Trucial chiefs and political questions concerning countries contiguous with Arabia; the benefits of making one department of government, with the Air Ministry as advisers, responsible for political and administrative action in Iraq, Aden and Transjordan; and the extent to which Britain should be involved in the region, and in particular in Iraq, once its special position was terminated.

See also CID Persian Gulf Sub-Committee: Sub-Committee on Political Control; AIR 8/99 (includes Cabinet conclusions); AIR 8/100.

CAB 16/93-94

Committee of Imperial Defence: Persian Gulf Sub-Committee: Sub-Committee on Political Control (PG(Sub))

1 May 1929 - 24 Oct 1929

Meetings: 4

Papers: 18

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1929 May - Oct: W Fisher, Treasury

The committee was set up to recommend methods by which the existing machinery for political control in Arabia could be simplified and speeded up as necessitated by the extended use of air power in general and the projected air route along the Arabian littoral of the Gulf. It made extensive reference to the CID Persian Gulf Sub-Committee (qv) which detailed the existing arrangements for the exercise of political control in the Gulf. Its recommendations led to the establishment of the CID Standing Ministerial Sub-Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East (qv) and CID Standing Official Sub-Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East (qv).

CAB 16/95

Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers Committee (PSO)

2 May 1924 - 12 July 1939

Meetings: 65

Papers: 617

Subjects: civil supply; defence; raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1925 Jan - 1926 Dec: J F N Birch, War Office

1927 May - 1929 May: P Cunliffe-Lister, Board of Trade

1929 Oct - 1931 June: W Graham, Board of Trade

1930 Oct: W Gillman, War Office

1931 Dec - 1935 Apr: H C T Dowding, Air Ministry

1932 Dec - 1935 Oct: W Runciman, Board of Trade

1936 Apr - 1938 Jan: W S Morrison, Duchy of Lancaster

Secretaries: 1925 Jan - 1935 Oct: J R Wade, War Office

1936 Apr - 1939 July: A E Kemble, War Office

1939 July: W Porter, Committee of Imperial Defence

The committee monitored national stocks of raw materials for the manufacture of articles required by the three services, including the forces throughout the empire, and the civilian population. It made arrangements to prohibit their export and to increase the supplies, mainly through expanded production in the UK and the empire, in the event of war or emergency. The UK called for co-operation from the dominions and India in developing an adequate production capacity throughout the empire, and the committee examined colonial industries which would be vital as suppliers of such resources as bauxite from British Guiana, manganese ore from the Gold Coast, tin ore from Nigeria, copper from Northern Rhodesia, tin from the Straits Settlements and coir from Ceylon.

The committee worked through numerous sub-committees which dealt with specific details such as prohibition of exports, and it co-ordinated the results of their enquiries. Twelve of these sub-committees (see CAB 60/18-21) considered the procurement of supplies vital to a war effort as follows: armaments; transport; scientific stores; foodstuffs; medical and

veterinary supplies; hardware and woodware; metals and hardware; oils, paints and chemicals; textile stores, leather stores, and engineering construction materials.

See also ADM 116/3640; AIR 2/1348/S.31649; AIR 2/1445/S.22699; CAB 21/718-719, 2468; CAB 127/6; POWE 33/875-876.

CAB 60/1-17

Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers Committee: Board of Trade Supply Organization (PSO(BT))

25 Oct 1927 - 21 June 1938

Meetings: 31

Papers: 330

Subjects: civil supply; defence

Chairmen: 1928 July - 1936 July: H Hamilton, Board of Trade

1927 June - 1938 June: William Brown, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1928: G C L Maunders, Board of Trade

1929: not specified

1930: T St Quintin Hill, Board of Trade

1931-1935: R D Fennelly, Board of Trade

1936: J C Pyke, Board of Trade

The committee's function was to collect basic information upon which supply plans could be framed in conjunction with the Supply Board. This included estimates of requirements of supply materials for the fighting and non-fighting services as well as for the civil population of the entire British empire. It was felt that the colonies should set out their requirements in the respective local defence schemes which were formulated under the direction of the CID Oversea Defence Committee (qv). The committee was also directly concerned with the supply capacity of the colonies, for instance tin from Nigeria and copper from Northern Rhodesia.

CAB 60/64-73

Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers Committee: Sub-Committee on Optical Glass (PSO Sub-Op)

18 June 1925 - 8 Dec 1925

Meetings: 4

Papers: 3

Subjects: civil supply; defence

Chairman: 1925 June - Dec: F E Smith, Admiralty

The sub-committee was set up to consider alternative methods which might be adopted to secure the maintenance and development of the optical glass and optical instruments industries in Britain. It considered that a serious effort should be made to secure protection for the optical glass industry, which was seen as vital for the safety of Great Britain and the empire. While

endorsing a policy of free trade within the empire, it recommended that a duty be levied on optical instruments made in other countries and sold in the empire.

CAB 60/22

Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers Committee: Supply Board (PSO(SB))

16 Nov 1927 - 24 May 1939

Meetings: 65

Papers: 939

Subjects: civil supply; defence

Chairmen: 1927 Nov - 1928 July: E Chatfield, Admiralty

1929 Feb - 1930 Dec: W Gilman, War Office

1931 Mar - 1935 July: H C T Dowding, Air Ministry

1935 Oct - 1939 May: A Robinson, no details

Secretary: 1936 Apr - 1939 Feb: J A Davies, Committee of Imperial Defence and Supply Board

In peacetime the board functioned in conjunction with the Board of Trade to prepare and maintain estimates of Britain's war requirements for raw materials and manufactured products. It also determined which materials should be controlled in the initial phases of war, what controls were needed and how they were to be implemented. The board took account of empire requirements for supplies from the UK, and colonial governments were also invited to provide estimates of their war requirements within the local defence schemes drawn up under the direction of CID Oversea Defence Committee (qv). The board carried out its functions through a number of supply committees which it co-ordinated. These included armaments; engineering; shipbuilding; general stores; scientific stores; aircraft, tanks and road transport; foodstuffs and medical stores.

See also Sub-Committee on the Formation of Supply Committees (CAB 60/23).

CAB 60/29-50

Committee of Imperial Defence: South Africa: Co-operation in Defence with East African Colonies: Interdepartmental Committee (SA)

14 May 1934 - 25 June 1934

Meetings: 3

Papers: 2

Subjects: Africa; defence

Chairman: 1934 May - June: M P A Hankey, Cabinet and Privy Council Office

The minister of defence of the Union of South Africa, the Hon Oswald Pirow, made suggestions to the CID for co-ordinating defence measures between South Africa and British territories in East and Central Africa. The interdepartmental committee, which included representatives of the Dominions Office, Colonial Office, Admiralty, War Office and Air

Ministry, examined the possibilities and considered the advantages and complications of accepting the Union's offer.

CAB 16/118

Committee of Imperial Defence: Southern Rhodesia: Sub-Committee on Proposed Contribution to Imperial Defence (SR)

16 July 1934

Meetings: 1

Papers: 4

Subjects: Africa; defence

Chairman: 1934 July: J H Thomas, secretary of state for dominions affairs

The sub-committee met the prime minister of Southern Rhodesia, G M Higgins, to discuss proposals made in the Southern Rhodesia House of Assembly in regard to the annual contribution by the government of Rhodesia towards imperial defence. It was felt that the funds could best be utilized in the development of flying training within Southern Rhodesia which would benefit Southern Rhodesia directly.

CAB 16/117

Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship (SCC)

21 May 1924 - 25 Nov 1938

Meetings: 24

Papers: 295

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairmen: 1925 June: A Browne, Imperial War Graves Commission

1926 Apr: J T Burnett-Stuart, War Office

1926 July - 1930 Feb: J R E Charles, War Office

1927 Dec - 1932 Apr: G S H Pearson, no details

1931 July - Dec: W H Bartholomew, War Office

1933 Nov: J G Dill, War Office

Secretaries: 1925 June: G H B de Chair, no details

1926 Apr - 1927 Dec: J T N Reeve, no details

1928 Apr - 1930 Feb: C G L Davey, War Office

1931 July: F G Drew, no details

1932 Apr - Dec: R C Cooney, no details

1933 Nov - 1934 Nov: E H L Jacobs-Larkcom, no details

1934 Nov: F B Webb, no details

The committee was set up to review arrangements for censorship of all types (cable, radio-telegraphic, radio-telephony, postal and press) and to revise schemes and regulations where necessary. It considered comments, criticisms and questions addressed to it by colonial and dominion governments regarding the practical arrangement of censorship schemes. It was also

faced with specific problems, such as the diversion of the Eastern Telegraphy Company's Aden-Zanzibar cable to Mogadishu in Italian Somaliland, which had to be incorporated into the overall censorship schemes.

As CAB 49/6-7, 21-24 are closed this information is incomplete.

CAB 49/1-7

Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship: Censorship Documents Sub-Committee (CDR)

23 Mar 1927 - 15 June 1938

Meetings: 31

Papers: 66

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairmen: no details as volumes containing minutes are closed

The sub-committee proposed any amendments to censorship regulations it considered necessary. It did not examine how these regulations affected the colonies, but it suggested that any action taken by the government to implement them should serve as a model on which colonial governments could make their own preparations for the introduction of censorship.

This information is incomplete as CAB 49/10, 15 are closed.

CAB 49/10-15

Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Ministerial Sub-Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East (ME(M))

17 Nov 1931 - 29 Jan 1935

Meetings: 9

Papers: 54
(plus 2 reports)

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairmen: 1931 Nov - 1935 Jan: P Cunliffe-Lister, secretary of state for the colonies
1934 Jan: J Simon, secretary of state for foreign affairs

The sub-committee examined the minutes of the CID Standing Official Sub-Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East (qv) and dealt with questions it failed to resolve. The main subjects referred to it included the proposed establishment of an Arabian air route, general policy to be followed regarding the Syria-Iraq and Syria-Transjordan frontiers, policy in Somaliland and frontiers between Italian Libya and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan.

CAB 51/1

Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Official Sub-Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East (ME(O))

25 Feb 1931 - 14 Aug 1939

Meetings: 69

Papers: 317

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairmen: 1931 Feb - 1937 Feb: G W Rendel, Foreign Office

1931 Mar - 1939 Aug: J E Shuckburgh, assistant under-secretary of state for the colonies

1931 Aug - 1937 June: A C C Parkinson, assistant under-secretary of state for the colonies

1937 Feb: H R Cowell, Colonial Office

1938 Sept: C W Baxter, no details

The committee dealt with Middle East questions which concerned two or more departments. The main subjects considered included Transjordan-Saudi Arabian boundaries, the question of administration in the Aden Protectorate (and the Shabwa area of Aden in particular), treaties affecting native tribes of Somaliland, Yemen encroachment into Aden and relations with the Imam of the Yemen, an eastern air route and the Haifa-Baghdad Railway.

See also CID Standing Ministerial Sub-Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East; and CO 935/3.

CAB 51/2-11

Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Sub-Committee on the Co-ordination of Departmental Action on the Outbreak of War: War Book Sub-Committee (K(WB))

2 July 1926 - 2 Sept 1939

Meetings: 98

Papers: 371
(plus 13 annual reports)

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1926 July - 1931 Dec: A Flint, Admiralty

1928 Mar: G C L Maunder, Board of Trade

1931 Feb: A L Dixon, Home Office

1932 Jan - 1934 July: C G Caines, Air Ministry

1935 July: A E Kemble, War Office

1935 July - 1936 Nov: E J Hodsoll, Home Office

1937 June - 1938 Jan: P Warburton, Home Office

1938 May - 1939 Aug: W Elliot, Committee of Imperial Defence

This sub-committee considered the headings and general form of the war book, recommended and advised departments on the compilation of their chapters.

CAB 15/27-35

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee for the Control of the Official Histories (COH)

9 Jan 1924 - 11 July 1939

Meetings: 16

Papers: 46

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1924 Jan: E F L Wood, Board of Education
 1924 Dec - 1929 Mar: E Percy, Board of Education
 1930 Mar: C Trevelyan, Board of Education
 1931 Mar: H B Lees-Smith, Board of Education
 1932 Mar: D Mclean, Board of Education
 1934 Mar: Lord Irwin, Board of Education
 1934 Apr: Viscount Halifax, Board of Education
 1936 Apr: O F G Stanley, Board of Education
 1937 June - 1938 Apr: Earl Stanhope, Board of Education
 1939 July: Earl de la Warr, Board of Education

The permanent sub-committee controlled the compilation of the official histories prepared by the Historical Section of the CID. The histories included general departmental subjects, such as naval histories or the history of war in the air, as well as specific campaign histories, such as that of the East African campaign or the campaign in Egypt, Palestine and Syria. The sub-committee was concerned with all aspects of these official histories, including compilation, finances and publication.

CAB 16/52-53

**Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Co-ordination of Departmental Action:
 Sub-Committee on the Transmission of Urgent Government Messages (CC(TSM))**

2 Jan 1923 - 25 Jan 1925

Meetings: 8

Papers: 10

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: C H Montgomery, Foreign Office

The sub-committee was appointed to draw up a scheme for the prompt transmission of state messages of vital importance, including the preparation of a classification scheme for categories of messages of relative urgency and of prefixes suitable for adoption throughout the empire for these categories. It proposed a strict limitation on the numbers of officials entitled to authorize the despatch of telegrams, but the Colonial Office staff posed a special problem due to the large number of territories and hence of officials to whom urgent telegrams had to be despatched.

See also CID Committee on the Co-ordination of Departmental Action on the Outbreak of War: Sub-Committee on Prefixes for Urgent Government Messages.

CAB 15/25

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Defence Policy and Requirements (DPR)

8 July 1935 - 21 Oct 1937

Meetings: 44

Papers: 329

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1935 July-Aug: J R MacDonald, lord president of the Council

1935 Sept - 1936 Mar: S Baldwin, prime minister

1936 May - 1937 Oct: T Inskip, Minister for Co-ordination of Defence

The sub-committee was set up to keep the defence situation as a whole under constant review so as to ensure that Britain's defence arrangements and foreign policy were in line. It advised on changes in policy or in defence services programmes and ensured that CID plans and preparations were effective and consistent with Britain's general defence policy. It was particularly concerned with the Italo-Abyssinian dispute because of the possible consequences for the Mediterranean and the Middle East. The sub-committee made recommendations on the strengthening of garrisons at Malta, Somaliland and Kenya and the need to evacuate wives and families from Malta and Aden. It also examined the requirements and supplies of raw materials to the UK, some of which originated in the colonies. In this respect it relied on reports from the CID Sub-Committee on the Accumulation of Stocks of Essential Raw Materials (qv).

CAB 16/136-144

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Demilitarized Zones (DZ)

3 June 1926 - 30 Nov 1926

Meetings: 2

Papers: 8

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1926 June - Nov: L Worthington-Evans, War Office

The sub-committee examined the views of the Foreign Office, general staff and air staff personnel regarding all aspects of demilitarized zones. It also examined a comprehensive memorandum on the subject by Brigadier-General E L Spears including a list of agreements on demilitarized zones. Those of colonial relevance were: Suez Canal, Central Africa, Heligoland, South West Africa, Tanganyika, Samoa, Nauru and the Pacific Ocean territories.

CAB 16/68

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Egypt (AET)

2 Nov 1932 - 14 Mar 1933

Meetings: 2

Papers: 15

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1932 Nov - 1933 Mar: S Baldwin, lord president of the Council

The sub-committee examined proposals by the Foreign Office on the strategic interests of the British in Egypt including the administration and status of the Sudan in relation to the Anglo-Egyptian Condominium.

CAB 16/107

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Policy in Regard to the Supply of Arms to Foreign Countries (SAF)

[1926]

Papers: 3

Subjects: defence

Chairman: Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster
Secretary: I A Kirkpatrick, Foreign Office

The chairman examined three memoranda outlining policy regarding the supply of arms to foreign countries and decided that the government had already adopted a sufficiently definite general policy. The sub-committee, therefore, was never called to meet. Only one aspect of this general policy concerned the colonies: in 1924 the Cabinet forbade the sale of surplus arms to foreign countries and ordered their destruction if it proved that they could not be made use of by the services or sold to the dominions or colonies.

CAB 16/69

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Singapore (SP(25))

16 Jan 1925 - 10 July 1928

Meetings: 8

Papers: 22

Subjects: defence, Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1925 Jan - Feb: Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, lord president of the Council
1925 July: Earl of Balfour, lord president of the Council
1926 July - 1928 July: S Baldwin, prime minister

The sub-committee was set up to re-examine the sites approved by the CID in 1922 for the naval base, aerodrome and seaplane station and to consider the construction programme. It reviewed deterrents as alternatives to heavy guns against attack by capital ships, the scale of defence required, the strength of the military and air garrison and the approximate cost of the proposals recommended.

CAB 16/63

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Accumulation of Stocks of Essential Raw Materials (ARM)

24 June 1936 - 30 June 1939

Meetings: 18

Papers: 125

Subjects: defence; raw materials/industrial products

Chairman: 1936 June - 1939 June: A Robinson, Supply Board
 Secretaries: 1936 June - 1939 Jan: C J Pyke, Board of Trade
 1939 Apr - June: J R C Helmore, Board of Trade

The sub-committee examined the uses and estimated requirements by the defence forces of various raw materials to establish which should be accumulated. It discussed possible sources, which often proved to be from the colonies, for instance bauxite from British Guiana and the Gold Coast.

CAB 16/161-162

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Akhwan Situation (IAS)

26 June 1928 Meetings: 1 Papers: 2

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1926 June: S Baldwin, prime minister

The sub-committee examined a memorandum by the secretary of state for air on the subject of frontier posts in the desert area of Iraq south of the Euphrates with a view to determining which posts were essential for the protection of Iraq. It also considered a memorandum by the secretary of state for the colonies outlining the situation arising out of objections by Ibn Saud to the numbers and placement of posts on the Iraq side of the border.

CAB 16/88

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Construction of the Proposed Haifa-Baghdad Railway and/or Pipeline (CBR)

15 Mar 1928 - 1 June 1928 Meetings: 7 Papers: 22

Subjects: defence; Middle East; oil; transportation

Chairman: 1928 Mar - June: Earl Stanhope, civil lord, Admiralty

The committee, which was set up by the Committee on the Proposed Baghdad-Haifa Railway and Pipeline (qv), reviewed the financial and administrative considerations involved in constructing the Baghdad-Haifa Railway and Pipeline. It examined the stance of the Iraqi government and the local effects of construction, the formal position of Great Britain and Iraq (as a mandated territory) in the event of war and the supply of oil fuel. It also anticipated differences with the French government and considered whether Britain was justified in supporting a railway that depended entirely on development of big oil fields in Iraq.

CAB 16/92

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Control of Aliens in War (CAW)

18 Jan 1939 - 28 Aug 1939

Meetings: 6

Papers: 39

Subjects: defence; migration

Chairman: 1939 Jan - Aug: E N Cooper, Home Office

Secretary: 1939 Jan - Aug: L W Clayton, Home Office

Established to review and co-ordinate plans to control aliens in time of war, the sub-committee was primarily concerned with the control of movements and internment of enemy aliens in the UK. However, its considerations included a request from West Africa on the provision for internment of German and Italian citizens from the Gambia. The West African situation represented a unique problem in terms of the anticipated number of enemy aliens involved.

CAB 16/211

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Disarmament Conference (Three Party Committee) (DC(P))

18 Mar 1931 - 15 July 1931

Meetings: 10

Papers: 51

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1931 Mar - July: J R MacDonald, prime minister

The sub-committee advised on the policy to be adopted at the forthcoming disarmament conference. It examined the obligations of Great Britain or her territories arising out of any treaty or international agreement to employ armed forces in aid of other countries and established the strength and distribution of the forces deployed to meet these obligations. The extent to which these forces could be reduced was determined as a step toward the theme of the conference, ie that the maintenance of peace required the reduction of national armaments to the lowest point consistent with national safety and the enforcement by common action of international obligations. The sub-committee's work was continued by the CID Interdepartmental Sub-Committee on Preparation for the Disarmament Conference (qv).

CAB 16/102

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the League of Nations and the Near East (LNE)

14 Dec 1925 - 14 Dec 1925

Meetings: 1

Papers: 4

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1925 Dec: Earl of Balfour, lord president of the Council

The sub-committee examined the question of the advice the British representative on the Council of the League of Nations should give the council in the event of Turkish aggression against Iraq if the council decided to assign Mosul to Iraq. The general, naval and air staff made proposals for action.

CAB 16/62

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Situation in Adaba (CSA(25))

3 June 1925

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1925 June: H W Young, Colonial Office

This ad hoc sub-committee examined and reported on the dispute between the Transjordan administration, Ibn Saud and ex-King Hussein resulting from confusion over the administrative boundaries of Transjordan at the north end of the Gulf of Arabia.

CAB 16/60

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on the Transfer of a Colonial Mandate or Mandates to Germany (CMG)

19 Mar 1936 - 9 June 1936

Meetings: 12

Papers: 64

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; defence

Chairman: 1936 Mar - June: Earl of Plymouth, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies

Secretary: 1936 Mar - June: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

The sub-committee examined the history of the German empire and the institution of the mandate system after the First World War. It examined the possibility of transferring mandated territories to Germany and the social, legal, political and strategical implications of doing so. It put forward various possible courses of action.

CAB 16/145-146

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee on Zinc Imports (ZI)

11 June 1937 - 4 Nov 1937

Meetings: 8

Papers: 15

Subjects: defence; raw materials/industrial products

Chairman: 1937 June - Nov: Lord Riverdale of Sheffield, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

Secretaries: 1937 June - Nov: J A Davies, Supply Board

1937 June - Nov: C J Pyke, Board of Trade

The sub-committee examined the uses and requirements of the defence forces for zinc and looked at the world zinc situation including that in the territories, especially Northern Rhodesia, in order to best meet their demands.

CAB 16/173

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee to Prepare Plans for the Establishment of a Ministry of Information (MIC)

25 Oct 1935 - 2 Aug 1939

Meetings: 6

Papers: 25

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairmen: 1935 Oct: J Colville, Department of Overseas Trade; 1936 Feb - July: under-secretary of state for Scotland; 1938 Mar: Treasury

1938 Dec: W Fisher, Treasury

1939 Aug: S Hoare, Ministry of Home Affairs

Secretary: 1939 Aug: D B Woodburn, HM Customs and Excise

The sub-committee considered the machinery needed to establish a Ministry of Information on the outbreak of war, taking into consideration all forms of propaganda, including broadcasting and the arrangements already made for censorship. It was concerned with such questions as the possible need for additional broadcasting stations at suitable points in the empire.

See also CID Sub-Committee to Prepare Plans for the Establishment of a Ministry of Information: Sub-Committee on the Arrangements for the Dissemination by Wireless in Time of War of British News and Publicity and Sub-Committee on Propaganda in Foreign Countries in Time of War.

CAB 16/127

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee to Prepare Plans for the Establishment of a Ministry of Information: Sub-Committee on the Arrangements for the Dissemination by Wireless in Time of War of British News and Publicity (MIC(DBN))

21 June 1939

Meetings: 1

Papers: 7

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: 1939 June: S Hoare, Home Office

Secretaries: 1939 June: C N Ryan, Committee of Imperial Defence and H G G Welch, Post Office

The sub-committee considered whether the existing arrangements at home, in the empire and in prospective allied and neutral countries overseas would be adequate in the event of war and

if not what steps should be taken to supplement them, making special reference to the risk of existing stations being rendered ineffective by enemy action and to the desirability of establishing stations outside Britain for publicity purposes. It examined a memorandum by the Colonial Office outlining the wireless arrangements in the colonies.

See also CID Sub-Committee to Prepare Plans for the Establishment of a Ministry of Information.

CAB 16/131

Committee of Imperial Defence: Sub-Committee to Prepare Plans for the Establishment of a Ministry of Information: Sub-Committee on Propaganda in Foreign Countries in Time of War (MIC(P))

26 Jan 1939

Meetings: 1

Papers: 5

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: 1939 Jan: C Stuart, Imperial Communications Committee

Secretary: 1939 Jan: D B Woodburn, HM Customs and Excise

The sub-committee examined existing arrangements for British publicity in foreign countries, the possible methods of conducting propaganda in these countries in the event of war and the machinery required.

CAB 16/130

Committee of Inquiry into Overseas Information Services (GEN 407)

21 Apr 1952 - 10 July 1952

Meetings: 7

Papers: 15

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1952 Apr - July: J W Nicholls, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1952 Apr - July: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

1952 May - June: N J P Hutchison, Home Office (Scotland)

The committee examined the functions, organization, political aims and effectiveness of the Overseas Information Services. The OIS was seen as creating an intellectual atmosphere in which the policies advocated by the British government would be more likely to be accepted than opposed and was therefore essential to the prosecution of the cold war. The committee examined a note by the Colonial Office based on replies from seventeen colonial territories to a questionnaire eliciting their opinions on the OIS.

See also Committee on the Drogheda Report on the Overseas Information Services; and Information Services.

CAB 130/75

Committee on the Aden Police Force (AP)

24 May 1928

Meetings: 1

Papers: 3

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1928 May: Lord Hailsham, lord chancellor

The committee was concerned with the responsibility for the internal defence of Aden and the necessity to increase efficiency while reducing expenditure. The inefficiency of the police force was blamed on complex interdepartmental involvement at the administration level and the indigenous nature of the local force. The committee examined a proposal to transfer responsibility for the force from the India Office to the Colonial Office and to introduce British command structure.

CAB 27/372**Committee on Allied African Economic Affairs (EFA(42)/AEA(43))**

24 Nov 1942 - 25 Oct 1944

Meetings: 17

Papers: 170

Subjects: Africa; civil supply

Chairman: 1942 Nov - 1944 Oct: D J F Morton, Treasury

Secretaries: 1942 Nov - 1943 May: A E T Benson, Colonial Office

1943 Feb - 1944 Apr: Miss G N McCleary, Ministry of Production

1943 Feb: Mrs E M Chilver, no details

1943 Mar: Miss W M Fox, Assistance Board

1943 May - 1944 Apr: A M Seed, HM Customs and Excise

1944 Jan - Apr: H T Bourdillon, Colonial Office

1944 Apr - Oct: Mrs P A Vivian, no details

1944 Aug - Oct: A Lousada, Ministry of Production

1944 Aug - Oct: R H Pariler, no details

1944 Aug - Oct: Miss G Harris, no details

1944 Oct: R Wrightson, Ministry of Production

1944 Oct: Miss A D Stevens, no details

Originally established as the Committee on Economic Co-ordination in French North and West Africa, the committee's name was changed in 1943. It examined the economic problems of French North Africa, French West Africa and Togoland, French Equatorial Africa and the Cameroons, the Belgian Congo, Madagascar and Réunion, but was primarily concerned with French North and West Africa. It also considered the establishment of an Anglo-American supply council for West Africa (including the British colonies) at Accra to facilitate the extraction of raw materials and foodstuffs required by the United Nations and the importation of consumer and capital goods, and it looked at the British West African import trade.

See also BT 25/43; BT 25/71/SLA/22; BT 25/71/SLA/22/1; CAB 21/1599.

CAB 95/9, 17

Committee on Armistice Terms and Civil Administration

See Armistice and Post-War Committee

Committee on the Assyrians in Iraq (AI)

27 Jan 1937 - 5 May 1937

Meetings: 2

Papers: 7

Subjects: Middle East; migration

Chairman: 1937 Jan - May: J Simon, secretary of state for the Home Department

The committee considered the appeal of the League of Nations Council Committee that the Assyrians in Iraq should be found a home within the British Empire. The Assyrians, estimated to be a community of about 30,000, originally lived on the Turkey-Iraq border, but the majority were incorporated into Iraq when the frontier was fixed by the Council of the League of Nations in 1925. Although the Assyrians desired religious as well as national and administrative autonomy, the Colonial Office considered resettlement inadvisable. The committee was concerned with the pressure from the League of Nations on the UK government to recognize liability and responsibility in the matter and with the possible international consequences.

CAB 27/629

Committee on the Baghdad-Haifa Railway and Pipeline (BH)

28 Mar 1930 - 1 May 1930

Meetings: 3

Papers: 7

Subjects: Middle East; oil; transportation

Chairman: 1930 Mar - May: A Henderson, secretary of state for foreign affairs

The committee was formed after the Cabinet received evidence suggesting that the French were trying to secure a Syrian alignment of the pipeline. Proposals by Sir John Cadman, president of the Iraqi Petroleum Company, were considered and the advantages and disadvantages of a termination in Tripoli or Haifa were examined.

See also Baghdad-Haifa Interdepartmental Sub-Committee (CAB 27/420).

CAB 27/419

Committee on the Baghdad-Haifa Railway and/or Pipeline (BHR(29))

21 Aug 1929 - 11 Sept 1929

Meetings: 3

Papers: 11

Subjects: Middle East; oil; transportation

Chairman: 1929 Aug - Sept: Lord Passfield, secretary of state for dominions affairs and for the colonies

The committee advised on the political aspects of the construction of a railway and/or pipeline from Baghdad to Haifa. The scheme was based on the idea that if Britain did not secure the pipeline and its seaport, France would construct a railway terminating in Tripoli, thus undermining British control. The committee examined the British position in Iraq, Palestine and Transjordan as well as defence of the pipeline.

CAB 27/388

Committee on Balance of Payments Prospects (BP)

25 Mar 1955 - July 1964

Meetings: 98

Papers: 299

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1955 Mar - 1957 July: A W France, Treasury

1956 May: F E Figgures, Treasury

1956 June - Sept: D M B Butt, Treasury

1957 Sept: F R P Vinter, Treasury

1957 Oct - Dec: D Rickett, Treasury

Secretaries: 1955 Mar-June: D J Derx, Board of Trade

1955 Nov - 1956 Oct: M Widdup, Treasury

1956 May - Oct: L Airey, Ministry of Supply

1957 Jan - Oct: I P Bancroft, privy seal

1957 Dec: T R H Godden, Colonial Office

Set up to replace the Programmes Committee (qv), the committee prepared periodical reports for ministers on the balance of payments prospects of the UK and the sterling area. It was concerned with sterling liabilities and balances, non-sterling surplus and deficit and sterling exchange. It reviewed monthly reports on world market prices of imported commodities, such as rubber, jute, tin and wool, relating to Malaya, East Africa and other territories and to Ceylon. In addition, it looked at tea prices, especially from Ceylon, prices of major sterling area export commodities and coffee imports insofar as they affected the balance of payments. It became concerned about the effects of the Suez crisis, notably the oil shortage resulting from the closure of the canal, on industrial output. Uncertainties about oil supplies made it difficult to forecast balance of payments prospects, imports and/or exports for the UK and for the overseas territories. The committee was dissolved on 28 July 1964 and its functions were taken over by the Economic Forecasts Committee.

CAB 134/778, 1198-1199, 1404-1411

Committee on Balance of Payments Prospects: Statistical Sub-Committee (BP(S))

16 May 1955 - 6 Oct 1955

Meetings: 7

Papers: 38

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1955 May - Oct: E C R Kahn, Treasury

1955 Sept: D K Burdett, Treasury

Secretary: 1955 May - Oct: D K Burdett, Treasury

The sub-committee examined, in co-operation with the departments concerned, departmental statistics and forecasts for imports, exports and invisibles and for the balance of payments of the rest of the sterling area. From this information it prepared statistical forecasts of the balance of payments for submission to the Committee on Balance of Payments Prospects (qv). In addition, it examined Board of Trade import forecasts, the balance of payments for oil, the distribution of UK exports including the sterling area and the colonies and the effect of the dock strike on UK exports. It reviewed monthly reports on world market prices of imported commodities similar to those presented to the main committee.

See also under Balance of Payments Committee: Sub-Committee on Statistics (CAB 134/49-50, 781).

CAB 134/779-780**Committee on the Balance of Trade (BT)**

17 Dec 1931 - 19 Jan 1932

Meetings: 5

Papers: 12

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1931 Dec - 1932 Jan: N Chamberlain, chancellor of the Exchequer

In examining imports and exports, the committee did not look at specific details on the dependent territories, but its considerations covered empire preference and colonial raw materials, imports from gold standard countries and fluctuating currency values within the sterling area.

CAB 27/467**Committee on Basic English (BE(43))**

5 Oct 1943 - 18 Nov 1943

Meetings: 5

Papers: 31

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairman: 1943 Oct - Nov: L S Amery, secretary of state for India

The committee was set up to consider what action, if any, should be taken to promote the spread of basic English, a simplified form of English. It attempted to find the best method of encouraging the spread of English as a medium for the diffusion, through English literature, of British culture and social and political ideals. The object was to promote British trade and to support efficient administration and education in British dependencies.

CAB 98/30-31

Committee on British Nationality (GEN 145)

7 Aug 1946 - 14 Aug 1946

Meetings: 2

Papers: 3

Subjects: migration

Chairman: 1946 Aug: J Chuter Ede, secretary of state for the Home Department

Secretary: 1946 Aug: J K T Jones, Home Office

The committee considered changes to the British Nationality Bill following the passage of the Canadian Citizenship Act. It was to determine whether the UK should participate in a new citizenship scheme, and if so in what manner the UK, the colonies, India, Burma, Newfoundland and Southern Rhodesia were to participate. It was also to find a solution to the difficulties arising from the somewhat anomalous position of Eire. In addition, it examined a proposal for creation of a combined citizenship of the UK and the colonies.

CAB 130/13

Committee on British Shipping in the Far East (FES(37))

8 Sept 1937 - 9 Nov 1937

Meetings: 2

Papers: 10

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; transportation

Chairman: 1937 Sept - Nov: secretary of state for home affairs

Secretaries: 1937 Sept: F B Webb, Committee of Imperial Defence and Supply Board

1937 Nov: W D Wilkinson, Treasury

The committee examined the possibility of the Japanese taking steps against British shipping and the measures to be adopted in such an event. It also considered the possible reinforcement of British naval forces in the Far East and the position of Hong Kong in relation to the dispute between Japan and China. Hong Kong was an important channel for China's imports and exports and most munitions for China passed through it.

CAB 27/634

Committee on British Somaliland (GEN 444)

29 Oct 1953

Meetings: 1

Papers: 3

Subjects: Africa

Chairman: 1953 Oct: Marquess of Salisbury, lord president of the Council

The committee was concerned with the renegotiation of the Anglo-Ethiopian Agreement (1944) in relation to the use of the Haud grazing areas in Ethiopia by the nomadic tribes of British Somaliland. It had been recommended by the lord president of the Council and the secretary of state for the colonies that a more secure agreement should be sought, based on a lease of territories from the Ethiopian government, but without consultation of tribes involved. It was pointed out, as a guiding principle for debate, that the government's general policy was that British protected persons should not be transferred to foreign jurisdiction without prior consultation. Disregard of this principle would have been embarrassing in Britain's dealings with the South African Government over the territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland.

CAB 130/95

Committee on the Cadman Report on Civil Aviation (CA)

25 Feb 1938 - 2 Mar 1938

Meetings: 3

Papers: 7

Subjects: transportation

Chairman: 1938 Feb - Mar: T Inskip, minister for co-ordination of defence

The committee reviewed the Cadman report which examined the development of civil aviation. It paid considerable attention to the management and expansion of the Imperial Airways and the empire routes. In a 15 year contract concluded with the Air Ministry, Imperial Airways had been trusted with the empire routes to Africa, India and other branch lines (such as Hong Kong). The empire routes made up ninety per cent of Imperial Airways interests, and successive governments had committed themselves to empire air development as an important means of imperial communication. An appendix to the report describes the empire routes, the overseas services controlled by colonial governments and the establishment of meteorological services in the Sudan, British West Africa and British East Africa.

CAB 27/643

Committee on China (CC (30))

17 Jan 1930

Meetings: 1

Papers: 5

Subjects: defence; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1930 Jan: A Henderson, secretary of state for foreign affairs

This committee, comprising the secretary of state for foreign affairs and the ministers at the head of the three service departments, reviewed the immediate situation in China and the

general policy on the distribution of troops with advice from a sub-committee of the chiefs of staff. The committee took into account the necessity to adequately protect Hong Kong.

CAB 27/412

Committee on Colonial Development (CD)

21 Dec 1948 - 15 Aug 1951

Meetings: 27

Papers: 109

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairmen: 1948 Dec - 1949 Aug: E A Hitchman, Central Economic Planning Staff

1949 Apr - 1950 May: Sir H Poynton, Colonial Office

1949 July: Sir E Plowden, Treasury

1949 Nov - 1951 Aug: W Strath, Central Economic Planning Staff

1950 Jan - Feb: D B Pitblado, Central Economic Planning Staff

1950 Sept: J L Croome, Central Economic Planning Staff

Secretaries: 1948 Dec - 1949 Apr: A G P Spicer, Treasury

1948 Dec - 1949 Dec: R W Newsam, Colonial Office

1949 May - 1951 Feb: C S Roberts, Colonial Office

1950 Sept - 1951 Aug: J A Atkinson, National Insurance

1951 Feb: P G Oates, Treasury

1951 Aug: Mrs D M de Moubray, Treasury

This was the major committee on colonial policy. It was set up to keep under review the broad plans for colonial economic development, the progress made in carrying them out and their relationship to the government's general economic policy. Its major functions were:

1. to review progress towards attaining colonial export targets and fulfilling major development schemes and to suggest any necessary adjustments to the targets; 2. to initiate studies necessary for the fuller co-ordination of colonial and UK economic policy and planning; 3. to examine import programmes submitted by colonial governments and to advise the Colonial Office whether these programmes were reasonable, having regard in particular to the balanced development of the colonial economies concerned, the availability of supplies and the conservation of hard currency; 4. to make proposals for dealing with major deficiencies in colonies' requirements, including, if necessary, an adjustment of colonial hard currency expenditure; 5. to follow up the recommendations of the Colonial Development Working Party.

It was intended that the committee should also, on appropriate occasions, be utilized to advise the Treasury on the economic considerations affecting requests by colonial governments for access to the London money markets.

The creation of the committee reflected the extent of post-war governmental concern with developing colonies' economies. Its considerations included transport improvements, the

supply of equipment to the colonies, the economic conditions in Malaya and the Gold Coast and the implications of President Truman's 'Fourth Point'.

See also CO 537/5180.

CAB 134/64-67

Committee on Colonial Development: Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Transport (CD(T))

23 Jan 1950	Meetings: 1	Papers: see CAB 134/66(5)
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Subjects: Africa; transportation

Chairman: 1950 Jan: J L Croome, Central Economic Planning Staff
Secretary: 1950 Jan: D S Timms, Colonial Office

The committee examined rail link surveys for East and Central Africa, a west coast port for Southern Rhodesia and the Beira Intergovernmental Agreement.

CAB 134/77

Committee on Colonial Development: Sub-Committee on Import Programmes (CD(BP))

13 Jan 1949 - 8 Nov 1951	Meetings: 85	Papers: 61 + 184 working papers
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Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1949 Jan - 1951 May: J L Croome, Central Economic Planning Staff
1950 Dec: P Nichols, Central Economic Planning Staff
1951 June - Aug: E Jones, Central Economic Planning Staff
1951 Aug - Nov: A M Jenkins, Central Economic Planning Staff
Secretaries: 1949 Jan - Dec: I P M Cargill, Colonial Office
1950 Jan - 1951 Jan: Miss B V Thake, Colonial Office
1950 Jan - 1951 Nov: W Clowser, Treasury
1951 Jan - Nov: Miss C H Savage, Colonial Office

Set up to undertake the more detailed and specialized work of the Committee on Colonial Development, the sub-committee examined the import programmes submitted by colonial governments and advised the Colonial Office whether these programmes were reasonable, taking into account the balanced development of the colonial economies concerned, the availability of supplies and the conservation of hard currency. In addition to its own memoranda, it considered a large number of working papers covering subjects including the

allocation of foodstuffs, regional dollar programmes, imports and colonial requirements and raw materials.

CAB 134/68-71 (CAB 134/72-76 Working Papers)

Committee on Colonial Development: Working Party on Submission of Information to the Economic Co-operation Administration (CD(WP))

30 June 1949 - 29 Mar 1950

Meetings: 7

Papers: 15

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1949 June-Nov: J R McK Willis, Central Economic Planning Staff

1949 Dec: D B Pitblado, Central Economic Planning Staff

1950 Mar: J L Croome, Central Economic Planning Staff

Secretaries: 1949 June - 1950 Mar: W S Carter, Colonial Office

1949 Sept: R W Newsam, Colonial Office

1949 Nov - Dec: Miss D I Vandepeer, no details

The Economic Co-operation Administration requested that the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC), through its Overseas Territories Committee, should undertake an intensive study of various aspects of overseas development; the OEEC Committee agreed to prepare a co-ordinated reply on the basis of submissions by the metropolitan powers represented. The preparation of Britain's submission was referred to the European Economic Co-operation Committee (qv) which invited the chairman of the Committee on Colonial Development (qv) to consult with the Colonial Office and the OEEC on the formation of the Working Party on Submission of Information to the Economic Co-operation Administration.

The working party co-ordinated interdepartmental discussion on colonial development matters and made recommendations for submission to the Overseas Territories Committee. It drew up lists of development projects which were in progress or contemplated in each of the main areas of the British colonial empire and it provided notes on the following subjects: principal items imported by OEEC countries from the dollar area and exportable by colonies; trends in economic development in the colonies; exchange control regulations, land tenure and settlement regulations of British territories; and foreign investment in the colonies.

CAB 134/78-79

Committee on Colonial Immigrants (CI)

27 Feb 1956 - 4 Oct 1956

Meetings: 3

Papers: 7

Subjects: migration

Chairman: 1956 Feb - Oct: Viscount Kilmuir, lord chancellor

Secretaries: 1956 Feb - Oct: H O Hooper, Board of Trade

1956 Oct: A W Glanville, Home Office

The committee considered whether legislation was needed to control the flow of immigrants to the UK from the commonwealth, the colonies and the Irish Republic. Its main concern, however, was immigration from the West Indies, particularly Jamaica, and from what were termed 'coloured' areas. The short and long term consequences were examined, and consideration was given to how controls might be implemented without appearing to the public and parliament as racially discriminating.

CAB 134/1210-1211 (1211 retained by Department); CAB 27/643

Committee on the Colonial Sugar Industry (CSI(30))

25 Feb 1930 - 3 Mar 1930

Meetings: 2

Papers: 3

Subjects: foodstuffs; West Indies

Chairman: 1930 Feb - Mar: P Snowden, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary: 1930 Feb - Mar: A J Simons, Customs and Excise

The committee was set up to examine the position of the sugar industry in the West Indies and Mauritius. With the world depression the sugar industry in the West Indian colonies was on the verge of collapse. Various proposals to prevent disaster were considered, and the Colonial Office suggested loans to help the cultivation of crops. An appeal was made to the government of India for preferential tariff treatment to sugar imported from Mauritius, but it was rejected.

CAB 27/414

Committee on Commercial Air Transport (CAT)

8 Feb 1934 - 11 May 1934

Meetings: 4

Papers: 16

Subjects: transportation

Chairman: 1934 Feb - May: W Runciman, president of Board of Trade

Secretary: 1934 Feb - May: F G L Bertram, Air Ministry

The committee examined in detail the importance of air routes and reassessed the advantages of developing empire services. It considered a Colonial Office memorandum on civil air communications in the empire, which examined the validity and form of concrete partnership between imperial airways and colonial governments and reviewed the existing services in the dependent territories on a regional basis. Attention was drawn to the military importance of developing air communications as a means of facilitating strategic mobility of forces in the interest of the control and defence of the empire.

CAB 27/558

Committee on Commonwealth Economic Development (CED(57))

18 Feb 1957 - 21 May 1957

Meetings: 19 - Papers: 14

Subjects: constitutional development; defence; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1957 Feb - May: the Earl of Perth, minister of state for colonial affairs

Secretary: 1957 Apr: R L Briggs, Treasury

The committee was created in response to issues arising from the independence of Ghana and the forthcoming independence of the Federation of Malaya. Its main purpose was to examine what part the UK and commonwealth could play in the economic development of newly independent Commonwealth countries. In addition to its interest in Ghana and Malaya, it was particularly concerned with Nigeria, the Caribbean Federation and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Their general economic backgrounds and probable capital demands were investigated. It was deemed important, for political reasons, to distinguish the form of economic assistance given before and after independence. The committee also looked at the future roles of the Colonial Development Corporation, the Commonwealth Development Bank and the Barclays Overseas Development Corporation. The possibility of a Colombo Plan for Africa was raised.

CAB 134/1496-1497

Committee on Copper Production in Northern Rhodesia (CNR(30))

[1930]

Papers: 4

The committee considered a memorandum from the president of the Board of Trade on the position in respect of the copper supplies of the UK and the recent discovery of large copper deposits in Northern Rhodesia. Concern was expressed that some mines were in American hands, and it was proposed that all copper produced from Northern Rhodesia should be refined within the British empire.

CAB 27/425

Committee on Cyprus (CS)

1 Sept 1954 - 7 Dec 1954

Meetings: 4

Papers: 12

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1954 Sept - Dec: H Hopkinson, minister of state for colonial affairs

Secretaries: 1954 Sept: J A Sankey, Colonial Office

1954 Sept - Dec: D M Smith, Colonial Office

The committee examined all aspects of the government's policy towards Cyprus.

CAB 134/801

Committee on the Drogheda Report on the Overseas Information Services (GEN 448)

10 Dec 1953 - 18 May 1954

Meetings: 8

Papers: 15

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1953 Dec - 1954 May: D Maxwell-Fyfe, Home Office

Secretary: 1953 Dec: N J P Hutchison, Home Office (Scotland)

The committee examined the Drogheda Committee report on the Overseas Information Services. The report indicated that services engaged in propaganda were ineffective and proposed a substantial expansion programme. Information services were seen as particularly important in ensuring Britain's continuing bond with the colonies, and it was recommended that the British Council's work should give greater emphasis to the colonies through increases in staff and supply of books as well as improved council premises.

See also Committee of Inquiry into Overseas Information Services; and Information Services.

CAB 130/98**Committee on Eastern Asia (GEN 538)**

3 July 1956 - 13 Sept 1956

Meetings: 4

Papers: 10

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1956 July: Lord Reading, Foreign Office

The committee examined political, economic and information measures for the maintenance and promotion of UK interests in Eastern Asia, taking into account the objective of reducing military commitments in that area. It reported to the Policy Review Committee through the foreign secretary. In the committee's view the UK's most important interest in eastern Asia was the preservation for the sterling area of the dollar earnings of Malaya and Singapore which were threatened by Chinese-instigated communism. Britain's policy was to promote stability and to help the small neighbouring countries, as well as the colonial territories, to improve their administration and security and to acquire a vested interest in their own freedom and ability to resist communism. Recommended measures, based on studies of the situation, included more emphasis on publicity, technical aid (through the Colombo Plan), trade promotion, English teaching, visits and training courses. Schemes by international organizations, including those of the United Nations agencies and the South-East Asia Treaty Organization, were considered useful to these ends.

CAB 130/118**Committee on Economic Co-ordination in French North and West Africa**

See under Committee on Allied African Economic Affairs

Committee on Egypt (EC(29))

22 July 1929 - 1 Aug 1929

Meetings: 2

Papers: 3

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1929 July - Aug: A Henderson, secretary of state for foreign affairs

Secretary: 1929 July - Aug: C M Patrick, Foreign Office

The committee considered a draft treaty with Egypt. Britain's primary concern was to ensure the defence of the Suez Canal. Egypt's wish to return troops to the Sudan was also considered.

CAB 27/387

Committee on Empire Marketing (EM(26))

9 Feb 1926 - 16 Feb 1926

Meetings: 2

Papers: 7

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1927 Feb: A Chamberlain, secretary of state for foreign affairs

Secretary: 1926 Feb: A F Hemming, Treasury

The committee was set up to consider questions on empire marketing raised by the Imperial Economic Committee and by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. It also considered a proposed grant for the development of empire trade and looked at the composition of the body to be set up to administer funds for this purpose.

CAB 27/310

Committee on Empire Telecommunications Services (ETS)

12 July 1944 - 26 Oct 1945

Meetings: 10

Papers: 34

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairmen: 1944 July - 1945 June: J Anderson, chancellor of the Exchequer

1945 Sept - Oct: H Dalton, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary: 1945 June - Oct: R J P Harvey, Treasury

The committee carried out a detailed examination of the issues raised by the recommendations of the Commonwealth Communications Council on the future organization of the telecommunications services throughout the commonwealth. It debated whether a government owned public utility corporation should be established in the UK to acquire Cable and Wireless Ltd. The colonies, which had been neglected in the report, were included in the committee's deliberations, although its primary concern was the dominions. The forthcoming Bermuda

Conference between the USA and members of the British Commonwealth on telecommunication matters, particularly rates, was also discussed.

See also Official Committee on Empire Telecommunication Services.

CAB 76/7

Committee on Exports (BP(E))

19 Sept 1947 - 22 Dec 1947

Meetings: 10

Papers: 36

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 Sept: J H Wilson, Board of Trade

1947 Oct: G S Owen, Board of Trade

1947 Nov - Dec: J C R Helmore, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1947 Sept - Dec: Mrs J C Marsh, Board of Trade

1947 Sept - Dec: Miss E M Gwyer, Board of Trade

The committee was set up to stimulate production for export, determine export targets and assist the Overseas Negotiations Committee (qv) in increasing and guaranteeing the availability of commodities of special importance to trade agreements. Its discussions made reference to colonial markets and exports, for instance wagons and locomotives to Southern Rhodesia to transport copper, chrome and steel for export, and medical stores to the Gambia, Malta and Tanganyika. It also circulated information on the UK position in finance, trade and food vis à vis overseas countries as a basis for establishing priorities for negotiations.

CAB 134/44

Committee on External Economic Policy (EEP)

9 July 1954 - 24 July 1954

Meetings: 3

Papers: 12

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1954 July: R A Butler, chancellor of the Exchequer

The committee was set up to review and co-ordinate policy in preparation for the forthcoming international meetings on economic, financial and commercial affairs, including the review of GATT. It was interested in the colonial preferences and waiving the no-new-preference rule in relation to the colonies. It was dissolved on 2 November 1954.

CAB 134/869

Committee on External Economic Policy and Overseas Trade (E)

21 Dec 1945 - 25 July 1946

Meetings: 5

Papers: 52

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1946 Apr - July: H A Marquand, secretary for overseas trade

The committee reviewed the development of the export trade and external economic policy, which incorporated considerations of colonial exports/imports and general overseas trade. It provided lists of imports and exports which included details of a variety of colonial raw materials and foodstuffs. The committee was replaced by the Committee on Overseas Economic Policy (qv).

CAB 134/165

Committee on the Future of British Commercial Air Transport (CAT)

2 Nov 1927 - 20 Dec 1927

Meetings: 6

Papers: 7

Subjects: transportation

Chairman: 1927 Nov - Dec: P Cunliffe-Lister, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1927 Nov - Dec: Wing Commander N Leslie, Civil Aviation Department

1927 Nov - Dec: F G L Bertram, Air Ministry

The committee reviewed civil aviation in the empire. It examined the cost effectiveness of existing empire routes and proposals for their extension. Its considerations included the propaganda element and political value of Imperial Airways and its mail carrying capacity.

CAB 27/354

Committee on Industrial Productivity: Panel on Import Substitution (CIP(IS))

28 Jan 1948 - 24 May 1950

Meetings: 35

Papers: 126

Subjects: research; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1948 Dec - 1950 May: S Zuckerman, University of Birmingham, later lord president of the Council

1949 Sept: F H Braybrook, Shell Petroleum Co

Secretaries: 1948 Jan - 1950 May: A L Thorogood, Office of the Lord President of the Council

1949 Jan - Mar: J Wardley Smith, Agricultural Research Council

In consultation with departments, private and university research organizations, industrial research and trade associations, etc, the panel reviewed the possibilities of reducing the demand for materials and other goods which were expected to be in short supply over the next few years or where import might give rise to balance of payments problems. It examined the use of substitutes, better use of the waste products of agriculture and industry, development of alternative sources and the more efficient use of materials. Its concerns were primarily domestic but it made scattered references to colonial territories. It looked at reports on the

development and progress of jute and jute substitutes in the colonies, for instance Nigeria, Malaya and British Guiana; a survey on wattle plantations in the African colonies; proposals for the production of motor spirit, etc, from agricultural products in the colonies; cotton imports; and world production of copper.

CAB 132/39-41

Committee on Judicial Appeals from Malaya (JAM)

8 Jan 1957

Meetings: 1

Papers: 2

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1957 Jan: Viscount Kilmer, lord chancellor

Secretary: 1957 Jan: C W B Rankin, Office of the Lord Chancellor

The committee examined the future of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the Commonwealth and the implications for commonwealth countries if Malaya, upon attaining full self-government, were to retain the right of appeal to the Judicial Committee and its advice was to be tendered to the Malayan head of state. The relationship of the queen and the Commonwealth was examined.

CAB 134/1274

Committee on Military Overseas Supply Requirements (MOS(43))

10 June 1943

Meetings: 1

Papers: 6

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1943 June: O Lyttelton, minister of production

The committee was appointed to scrutinize military overseas supply requirements. It was concerned with the US forces' extravagant use of shipping and excessive scales of equipment and maintenance.

CAB 92/53

Committee on Military Overseas Supply Requirements: Working Committee (MOS(W))

12 June 1943

Meetings: 1

Papers: 2

Subjects: civil supply; defence

Chairman: 1943 June: E I C Jacob, War Cabinet Office

The working committee reported on the procedure by which the military requirements for overseas operations and for the maintenance of overseas theatres were assessed, supplied and

The committee took over the work of the Ministerial Committee on Oversea Broadcasting (qv). It devoted much discussion to the dependent territories and was particularly concerned with the implementation of the Drogheda Committee's proposals and the need to consider new proposals. It examined BBC external services, Colonial Office information services and objectives and the need to strengthen broadcasting in the Middle East to counteract the influence of Egypt's Radio Cairo. There was much emphasis on the importance of information services to promote British interests. The British Council's work, particularly the teaching of English, was considered as was the expansion of the Commonwealth Relations Office information services to take responsibility for the colonies as they became independent (at this stage Ghana and Malaya).

This information is incomplete as pieces CAB 134/2320 - 2324 are closed.

See also Official Committee on Oversea Information Services; Overseas Information Services (Official) Committee; and Overseas Information Services (Ministerial) Committee.

CAB 134/2318-2324

Committee on Oversea Information Services: Working Party on British Television Prospects Overseas (OI(WP))

3 April 1957 - 24 April 1957

Meetings: 4

Papers: 7

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1957 April: W A Wolverston, Post Office

Secretary: 1957 April: G W Chandler, General Post Office

The working party considered the prospects for expanding British television services overseas. It examined a table showing world television services and notes on television services operating in the colonies or due to commence. It considered developmental prospects for these services and made recommendations to the main committee.

See also Overseas Information Services (Official) Committee; and Overseas Information Services (Ministerial) Committee.

CAB 134/2332

Committee on Overseas Broadcasting (ABC)

15 Sept 1937 - 2 Feb 1939

Meetings: 7

Papers: 28

Subjects: information services/communications; Middle East

Chairmen: 1937 Sept - 1938 Jan: Kingsley Wood, minister of health

1938 July - 1939 Feb: T Inskip, minister for co-ordination of defence

Formerly known as the Committee on Arabic Broadcasting, the committee examined the administrative and technical aspects of the proposed broadcasting stations in Cyprus, Palestine and India in the context of their increasing propaganda advantages. American propaganda success in South America, initiating the use of foreign languages, was examined as both a threat (damage to British trade and influence) and a model (use of language for political and commercial purposes). It was hoped that the broadcasting stations in Cyprus and Palestine could comprehensively cover the near and Middle East, including Iraq, Persian Gulf, most of Arabia, Southern Egypt and Sudan. Apart from the practical considerations of cost and maintenance, great emphasis was put on the significance of propaganda and its effect. Broadcasting stations would be expected to direct political and commercial propaganda in the form of news and bulletins which gave the most favourable impression of UK policy and material progress. The committee made recommendations to the Committee of Imperial Defence (qv) on broadcasting in the event of war and control of radio transmissions.

CAB 27/641

Committee on Overseas Economic Information (EI(O))

15 May 1946 - 5 August 1948

Meetings: 11

Papers: 35

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1946 Apr: J R G Helmore, Board of Trade

1946 Dec - 1947: E Rowe-Dutton, Treasury

1947 July - Apr: R Makins, Foreign Office

1948 Aug: D H F Pickett, Treasury

The Committee on the Machinery of the Government recommended that the central appraisal of economic information about overseas countries should be entrusted to a small central section of the Cabinet Secretariat working in close collaboration with the departments concerned; the Committee on Overseas Economic Information was set up as a result. Concerned with surveys of the overseas economic situation and its effect on the UK, it looked at the world supplies of food, coal, petroleum, industrial materials, shipping and the flow of commodities. It made observations on the sterling balances and gave some attention to the colonial territories.

CAB 134/204-205

Committee on Overseas Economic Policy (OEP)

16 Jan 1947 - 21 Jul 1947

Meetings: 10

Papers: 43

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 Mar - July: C R Attlee, prime minister

1947 July: H Morrison, lord president of the Council

The committee monitored the progress of the discussions at the International Conference on Trade and Employment and considered general questions of external economic policy. It examined aspects of economic policy concerning Europe, the colonies, the Commonwealth and east-west trade. While it dealt mainly with trade and tariff issues, it also produced overseas economic surveys that included consideration of the sterling area and colonial trade. After its appointment the existing Committee on External Economic Policy and Overseas Trade (qv) was abolished.

CAB 134/541

Committee on Overseas Manpower (OMP(41))

6 Jan 1942 - 14 May 1942

Meetings: 3

Papers: 23

Subjects: migration

Chairmen: 1942 Jan: R Assheton, Ministry of Labour

1942 Feb - May: M S McCorquodale, Ministry of Labour

Secretary: 1942 Jan - May: P H Brind, Ministry of Labour

The shortage of manpower had led to the search for alternative sources and the committee handled requests by UK departments for manpower from overseas. It also looked at the question of labour overseas, for instance in the mines of West Africa. The memoranda include a list of enemy personnel in Palestine.

CAB 92/105-106

Committee on Overseas Scientific Relations (OSR)

4 April 1948 - 29 Oct 1956

Meetings: 23

Papers: 163

Subjects: research

Chairmen: 1948 Apr - 1949 Mar: E Appleton, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

1948 Nov - 1956 Jan: A King, Lord President's Office (1948-1949); Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (1950-1956)

Secretaries: 1948 Apr - 1955 Jan: H L Verry, Overseas Liaison Division, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

1948 Apr - 1951 Jan: G A McMillan, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

1951 Dec - 1956 Jan: A R M Murray, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

1952 July: J R Kay, no details

The committee was concerned with overseas countries in general, but considered subjects relevant to the colonial territories. Since the Colonial Development and Welfare Act 1940 there had been growing investment in colonial research, including tropical diseases and the social sciences (eg the study of African labour in Kenya). The anti-locust research centre was

achieving increasing international interest. The committee considered closer co-operation with the French Colonial Service, and regional technical co-operation in Africa, the Caribbean and the Far East. Technical training and assistance to the colonies and a survey of training facilities within the colonies were looked at, as well as USA technical assistance to the colonies, following President Truman's 'Fourth Point'. Papers of the African Regional Scientific Conference held in South Africa were considered, at which it was decided to establish a scientific council for Africa south of the Sahara by the governments of the European colonial powers, the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. In later years the committee became more concerned with scientific relations with Germany, France and Scandinavia, but it examined the proceedings of the British Commonwealth Scientific Conference held in 1952.

CAB 132/59-62; CAB 130/103-105

Committee on Palestine (PAL(32))

12 April 1932

Meetings: 1

Papers: 2

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1932 Apr: P Cunliffe-Lister, secretary of state for the colonies

The committee considered whether it would be possible to set up a legislative council in Palestine that would be acceptable to both Jews and Arabs.

CAB 27/486

Committee on Palestine (P(38))

24 Oct 1938 - 4 Aug 1939

Meetings: 12

Papers: 28

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1938 Oct - 1939 Aug: N Chamberlain, prime minister

1938 Nov: J Simon, chancellor of the Exchequer

1938 Nov: S Hoare, secretary of state for the Home Department

Secretaries: 1938 Oct - 1939 Aug: H F Downie, Colonial Office

1938 Oct - 1939 May: W D Wilkinson, Treasury

Following the report of the Woodhead Commission the committee considered the policy to be pursued in regard to Palestine. The commission found that the Arabs were deeply opposed to partition and put forward strong arguments against setting up independent Jewish and Arab states. The idea of partition was consequently abandoned. Representatives of the Palestinian Arabs and the Jewish agency were invited to London to confer on future policy, but no agreement was reached and the British continued their responsibility for the government of Palestine.

CAB 27/651-652

Committee on Palestine (P(M))

4 Aug 1943 - 10 Oct 1945

Meetings: 9

Papers: 63

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1943 Aug - 1945 Oct: H Morrison, secretary of state for the Home Office and minister of home security

Secretaries: 1943 Aug - 1944 Oct: E B Boyd, Colonial Office

1943 Aug - Dec: G B Blaker, Ministry of Production

1935 Sept - Oct: D Harris, no details

1945 Oct: J A Drew, HM Customs and Excise

The committee was set up to consider and report to the War Cabinet on the long term policy for Palestine. It examined the Peel Commission's report which recommended a scheme for the partition of Palestine, taking into consideration the possibilities of development in the Hegeb and the suggestion that satellite Jewish settlements should be established in other areas: eg Cyrenaica, Tripolitania or Eritrea. Proposals by the prime minister of Iraq for Arab unity were discussed, and in 1945 a new policy for Palestine was considered which looked at schemes for local autonomy.

CAB 95/14**Committee on Petroleum Policy in Iraq (PI)**

27 Feb 1925

Meetings: 1

Papers: 5

Subjects: Middle East; oil

Chairman: 1925 Feb: The Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, lord president of the Council

The committee considered the question of the government of Iraq's grant of an oil concession to a Turkish petroleum company. The Turkish company did not want the Iraq government to participate in its shares as it feared Iraq would hold voting power on company policy.

CAB 27/268**Committee on Policy in East Africa (EA(27))**

4 July 1927

Meetings: 1

Papers: 3

Subjects: Africa

Chairman: 1927 July: L S Amery, secretary of state for dominions affairs and for the colonies

The committee considered proposals for closer union between the territories of Central and Eastern Africa, and how best to achieve it. The East African governors had considered a dual

policy for the separate economic and political development of African and non-African communities, the aim of which was to preserve minority white interests. Closer union seemed desirable in terms of developing transport and communications, custom tariffs, administration and scientific research and defence.

CAB 27/349

Committee on Policy in East Africa (EA(29))

3 Mar 1929 - 25 Mar 1929

Meetings: 2

Papers: 3

Subjects: Africa

Chairman: 1929 Mar: L S Amery, secretary of state for dominions affairs and for the colonies

The Committee on Policy in East Africa (qv) reassembled to consider instructions to be given to Sir Samuel Wilson, the permanent under-secretary of state for the colonies, on the occasion of his forthcoming visit to East Africa to discuss the recommendations of the Hilton Young Commission for the Closer Union of Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda.

CAB 27/384

Committee on Policy in East Africa (EAC(29))

16 Jan 1930 - 15 Apr 1930

Meetings: 7

Papers: 10

Subjects: Africa

Chairman: 1930 Jan: Lord Sankey, lord chancellor

Secretary: 1930 Jan: C A L Cliffe, Colonial Office

The committee considered the Hilton Young Commission's proposals on East Africa and Sir Samuel Wilson's report; see the Committee on Policy in East Africa. The recently elected Labour government disagreed with the previous government's policy in Africa, and felt that closer union in East Africa had been supported by white settlers in Kenya as a ruse to push for a white unofficial majority in the legislative council. Labour policy emphasised that African interests should not fall under the control of white settlers. The committee debated whether a new officer, a governor general or a high commissioner, should be appointed whose duties would be to supervise Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda. If so, it considered what his functions and powers would be in relation to the three governments and what changes, if any, should be made in the composition of the Kenya legislative council.

CAB 27/410

Committee on Policy in Ethiopia (EA(44))

11 July 1944 - 26 Oct 1944

Meetings: 2

Papers: 11

Subjects: Africa

Chairman: 1944 July - Oct: J Anderson, chancellor of the Exchequer

The committee reported to the War Cabinet on the policy in Ethiopia including questions about the frontiers with the Sudan, Kenya and British Somaliland.

See also Africa Committee: Ethiopia Sub-Committee.

CAB 95/16

Committee on Policy in Malaya and Borneo (CMB)

22 Mar 1944 - 19 Dec 1944

Meetings: 2

Papers: 16

Subjects: constitutional development; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1944 Mar - Dec: C R Attlee, lord president of the Council

Secretaries: 1944 Mar: W B L Monson, Colonial Office

1944 Dec: J J Paskin, Colonial Office

The committee considered future constitutional policy for British colonies in South-East Asia when Japanese rule ended.

CAB 98/41

Committee on Policy in Palestine (PPC)

18 Aug 1930 - 22 Sept 1930

Meetings: 3

Papers: 5

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1930 Aug - Sept: P Snowden, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary: 1930 Aug - Sept: O G R Williams, Colonial Office

The committee examined the Palestine Mandate and its financial obligations for Britain, and it produced a draft statement on policy in Palestine. The displacement of Arab tenants from their holdings was a major concern, and it was thought to be the result of the manner in which the Balfour Declaration and mandate had been applied. The minimum demands of the Arabs were that Jewish immigration should not increase and that no further agricultural land should be acquired for Jewish settlement. The committee looked at a report on Palestine by Sir John Hope Simpson concerning immigration, land settlement and development and considered the point of view of the Jewish agency.

See also AIR 8/112.

CAB 27/427

Committee on Policy in Palestine (CPI(30))

6 Nov 1930 - 12 Feb 1931

Meetings: 6

Papers: 6

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1930 Nov: Lord Passfield, secretary of state for the colonies

1930 Nov - 1931 Feb: A Henderson, secretary of state for foreign affairs

Secretary: 1930 Nov: O G R Williams, Colonial Office

Set up to consider the Palestine situation, the committee felt that misrepresentations had been made to the Jewish community on the recently issued white paper on government policy in Palestine. Criticism of the white paper and replies refuting it were considered. Immigration and land settlement were discussed.

See also T 161/582/S35297/02/4.

CAB 27/433

Committee on Policy in Regard to Competition Between Beam Wireless and Cable Companies (BWP)

16 Feb 1928 - 26 Apr 1928

Meetings: 3

Papers: 6

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1928 Feb: J Gilmour, secretary of state for Scotland

The committee considered questions raised by the secretary of state for Scotland about the handling of imperial communications - cable, beam wireless and beam telephone. The committee was not directly concerned with the colonies, but the outcome of the debate affected empire communications.

CAB 27/366

Committee on Policy with Regard to Iraq (IP(25))

27 Nov 1925 - 27 Nov 1925

Meetings: 1

Papers: 2

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1925 Nov: A Chamberlain, secretary of state for foreign affairs

The committee considered the relationship between Iraq and Britain and Britain's responsibilities for its defence.

CAB 27/296

Committee on Political and Economic Relations with Japan (PEJ)

18 Feb 1935 - 4 June 1935

Meetings: 3

Papers: 10

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1935 Feb: J R MacDonald, prime minister

Secretary: 1935 May - June: J H Penson, Treasury

Although primarily concerned with Japan and China, the committee gave consideration to trade between Hong Kong and China and the desirability of establishing a customs union between them.

CAB 27/596**Committee on Post-War Commodity Policy and Relief (CPR)**

10 Mar 1942 - 7 July 1943

Meetings: 9

Papers: 104

Subjects: foodstuffs; raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1942 Mar - 1943 July: F Leith-Ross, Board of Trade

1942 Aug: D Ward, Board of Trade

Secretary: 1942 Mar - 1943 July: P M Dyson, Board of Trade

Formerly known as the Official Committee on Export Surpluses, the committee's main concern was the organization of post-war relief. It examined surpluses and shortages of foodstuffs and raw materials. The war had depleted European stocks while shipping diversions had led to surpluses in West Africa, for instance cocoa; West Indian sugar producers were suffering because of curtailment of shipping space. The committee also considered the purchase and possible increased production of East African sisal.

CAB 72/19-20**Committee on Post-War Commodity Policy and Relief: Far Eastern Sub-Committee (CPR(FE))**

10 Nov 1942

Meetings: 1

Papers: 3

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1942 Nov: F W Leith-Ross, Board of Trade

Secretary: 1942 Nov: P M Dyson, Board of Trade

The committee considered commodities required in the Far Eastern territories and how to obtain and distribute them. This included large quantities of rice; meat, wheat and milk

products for the European population; medical supplies; and transport equipment.

CAB 72/19

Committee on Preparations for Commonwealth Economic Conference (PEC(52))

30 July 1952 - 24 Nov 1952

Meetings: 11

Papers: 53

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1952 July-Oct: A Eden, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1952 Nov: the Marquess of Salisbury, secretary of state for commonwealth relations

Secretary: 1952 Oct-Nov: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee was set up to undertake a comprehensive review of Britain's financial, economic and commercial policy in preparation for the Commonwealth Economic Conference in November. It considered the convertibility of sterling, trade and commodity policy (including GATT), the future economic policy of the Commonwealth and commonwealth development and its objectives, including the development of raw materials and rice production in South-East Asia and other colonies.

CAB 133/131

Committee on Preparations for the Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers (PFM(53))

26 Nov 1953 - 16 Dec 1953

Meetings: 3

Papers: 19

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1953 Nov - Dec: R A Butler, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary: 1953 Nov - Dec: F A Bishop, Ministry of Food

The committee supervised preparations for the meeting of commonwealth finance ministers which was to be held in Sydney in January 1954. It examined such issues as international commodity policy, sterling area balance of payments, a revision and review of GATT and the dependence of UK on the production of raw materials from the Commonwealth, such as manganese from the Gold Coast and iron ore from Sierra Leone and Malaya. The committee recommended that a paper on colonial development be presented to the conference in order to give publicity to current projects such as road construction in Fiji and Sierra Leone. Financial assistance for the Commonwealth was also considered including loans to colonial governments, such as Jamaica and Tanganyika.

CAB 133/133

Committee on Preparations for the Meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers (CPM(48))

6 Oct 1948 - 7 Oct 1948

Meetings: 2

Papers: 20

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1948 Oct: C R Attlee, prime minister

The committee supervised preparations for the forthcoming Meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers. It reviewed subjects for the agenda, notably the communist threat in South-East Asia. It was feared that the Soviet Union would introduce communist propaganda into Africa. Economic matters were also covered, including economic problems of individual countries and territories such as Ceylon and Southern Rhodesia, imperial preference and sterling area economic affairs.

CAB 133/30-31

Committee on Preparations for the Meeting of Dominion Prime Ministers (DPM)

3 Apr 1946 - 20 May 1946

Meetings: 8

Papers: 23

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1946 Apr - May: Viscount Addison, secretary of state for dominions affairs

Secretaries: 1946 Apr - May: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

1946 Apr-May: F E Cumming-Bruce, Dominions Office

The committee supervised the preparations for the forthcoming Meeting of Dominion Prime Ministers. It considered the items to be included on the agenda and the papers required to cover them. The Colonial Office was asked to prepare a paper on trusteeship. Atomic energy was also on the agenda, and the empire was examined as a source of the essential raw materials uranium and thorium.

CAB 133/40

Committee on Preparations for the Meeting with Dominion Prime Ministers (DPM(44))

15 Feb 1944 - 21 Apr 1944

Meetings: 4

Papers: 26

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1944 Feb - Apr: Viscount Cranborne, secretary of state for dominions affairs

Secretaries: 1944 Feb - Apr: J Stephenson, Dominions Office

1944 Feb - Apr: W A W Clark, Dominions Office

Among the items to be considered at the conference were post-war defence and colonial policy. The committee examined the possibility of setting up consultative regional colonial commissions, for instance in the Caribbean, aimed at the material well-being of the colonies rather than their political independence. It also looked at the creation of some kind of international colonial commission to provide for closer international co-operation, especially

between the dominions and colonies. A draft declaration on British colonial policy was also discussed.

CAB 99/27

Committee on Progress of the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GEN 478)

6 Dec 1954

Meetings: 1

Papers: 9

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1954 Dec: P Thorneycroft, Board of Trade

Secretary: 1954 Dec: Miss G N McCleary, Board of Trade

The committee examined questions arising from the review session of GATT which required ministerial consideration but did not warrant examination by the Economic Policy Committee (qv). The areas of the agreement considered included imperial preference, French compensation tax, quantitative restrictions and the economic development of underdeveloped countries and colonies.

CAB 130/104

Committee on the Proposed Baghdad-Haifa Railway and Pipeline (BHR(28))

7 Mar 1928

Meetings: 1

Papers: 6

Subjects: Middle East; oil; transportation

Chairman: 1928 Mar: S Baldwin, prime minister

Set up to investigate further the question of the Baghdad-Haifa Railway, the committee considered the advantages of the three possible terminations for the proposed pipeline and railway, Alexandria, Tripoli or Haifa. Haifa had more advantages for the British, but was the longest route. It was feared that France would push through plans for a pipeline through Syria. Finances for the scheme were also discussed.

CAB 27/367

Committee on the Proposed Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa (OC(30)) and (31))

26 Nov 1930 - 6 July 1932

Meetings: 16

Papers: 95

Subjects: international bodies and conferences; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1930 Nov - 1931 Jan: P Snowden, chancellor of the Exchequer

1930 Dec - 1932 May: J H Thomas, secretary of state for dominions affairs

1932 May - July: S Baldwin, lord president of the Council

The committee was concerned with preparatory work and policy for the proposed Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa and the selection of relevant subjects to investigate. It was primarily concerned with the dominions, but its consideration of tariff preferences, import duties and supply and demand for commodities included many of colonial origin. Reports were examined on tea, coffee and cocoa as well as less common commodities such as honey, fruit juices (British West Indies) and canned fruit (Malaya).

CAB 27/441, 473-475

The committee considered and rejected a proposal to extend imperial preference to Palestine.

CAB 27/493

The committee considered arrangements for the reception and accommodation of Jewish refugees who found their way out of enemy occupied territory through Bulgaria and Portugal. Jewish immigration into Palestine was discussed and the question of settlement in East Africa

and the Transjordan was raised and rejected. Jamaica and Mauritius had already received Jewish refugees. The committee also considered whether Polish refugees could find a place to settle in the British Empire.

CAB 95/15

Committee on the Refugee Problem (CRP)

24 Jan 1939 - 8 Dec 1939

Meetings: 7

Papers: 19

Subjects: migration

Chairmen: 1939 Jan - July: S Hoare, secretary of state for the Home Department

1939 Sept - Dec: M MacDonald, secretary of state for the colonies

Secretaries: 1939 Sept: J G Hibbert, Colonial Office

1939 Dec: J C Grant, Home Office

The committee was concerned with the resettlement of the large numbers of Jewish refugees leaving Germany. Much consideration was given to the possibility of resettlement in British Guiana, and a commission was sent to evaluate the situation. Resettlement in Northern Rhodesia was also considered.

CAB 98/1

Committee on the Report of the Committee on National Expenditure (NE(31))

[1931]

Papers: 34

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: no minutes or conclusions of the meetings of the committee were circulated

Set up to examine the report of the Committee on National Expenditure, the committee asked for observations from all departments affected including the Colonial Office. The report by the Committee on National Expenditure raised the possibility of abolishing the Empire Marketing Board, an idea opposed by the secretary of state for dominions affairs, and it considered limitations on Colonial Development Fund finances. Moreover, it recommended that the schemes to be aided should be those that would give the most benefit to Britain in the near future. The Colonial Office noted the increasingly serious financial conditions in some colonies, especially British Guiana.

CAB 27/454

Committee on the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (RG)

25 May 1954

Meetings: 1

Papers: 5

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1954 May: D Maxwell-Fyfe, secretary of state for the Home Department and minister for Welsh affairs

The committee examined the general limitations of the existing GATT and the possible creation of new tariff preferences. Post-Second World War developments and changes in the world position had brought into question the viability of the imperial preference established in 1932, which involved colonial trading. Memoranda were submitted by the empire industries association and the British Empire League. The committee's functions were taken over by the Committee on External Economic Policy.

See also Official Committee on the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

CAB 134/1153

Committee on the Shipping Situation (SS(42))

15 Feb 1942 - 24 Feb 1942

Meetings: 4

Papers: 7

Subjects: defence; transportation

Chairman: 1942 Feb: Lord Leathers, minister of war transport

Secretary: 1942 Feb: J N Wood, Ministry of War Transport

The committee considered ways and means of increasing Britain's shipping resources and using them to greater advantage in the war effort. Britain's aim was to stabilize the situation in the Far East and provide for the security of India, the Indian Ocean bases and the Middle East. The shortage of shipping made this difficult, and the forces were insufficient to cover both the Middle East and the Far East. The committee considered the possibility of reducing troop movements to increase shipping resources. It reported to the Defence Committee.

CAB 97/7

Committee on Supply of Arms to the Middle East (GEN 477)

24 Nov 1954

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: Nov 1954: A Eden, secretary of state for foreign affairs

Secretary: Nov 1954: K L Stock, Ministry of Fuel and Power

The committee was concerned with the military implications of supplying aircraft and tanks to countries in the region. As the British government placed emphasis on preventing an arms race in the area the committee also examined the intentions of other countries such as France, Sweden and the USA supplying arms to Middle Eastern Countries.

CAB 130/104

Committee on Trade and Employment (TE)

29 May 1953

Meetings: 1

Papers: 10

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1953 May: R A Butler, chancellor of the Exchequer

The committee's primary concern was to assess the government's ability to stimulate employment without a balance of payments crisis. It had limited relevance to the dependent territories, except in its considerations of the dollar gap, sterling area, gold and silver.

CAB 134/1185

Committee on the Welfare of Overseas Students (OS(56)&(57))

30 Jan 1956 - 19 Dec 1957

Meetings: 8

Papers: 27

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairmen: 1956 Jan - Oct: S Garner, Commonwealth Relations Office

1957 Feb: H J B Lintott, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee was concerned with the welfare of students in the UK from foreign countries, the Commonwealth and the colonial territories. Their numbers had increased from 300 in 1939 to 11,000 in 1955. Accommodation was discussed and tables were drawn up which show numbers from individual territories. The British government was particularly concerned about the influence of communism on overseas students, and the committee examined facilities for overseas students in communist countries where it was feared colonial students might be encouraged to go.

CAB 134/1313, 2373

Commonwealth Affairs Committee (CA)

9 Oct 1947 - 7 Dec 1950

Meetings: 15

Papers: 50

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; constitutional development

Chairmen: 1947 Oct - 1949 Jan: C R Attlee, prime minister

1950 Dec: Viscount Addison, lord privy seal

Secretaries: 1947 Oct: A F Morley, Burma Office

1947 Oct - 1948 Mar: H A F Rumbold, Commonwealth Relations Office

1948 Apr - July: J S Bennett, Colonial Office

1948: A R Bunker, Home Office

Set up to consider constitutional problems and other questions of policy affecting the Commonwealth and empire, the committee took over the work of the India and Burma Committee and the Colonial Affairs Committee (qv). It considered constitutional problems and general policy questions affecting the Commonwealth and dependent territories such as Burmese independence, population problems in the West Indies and the Durban Riots.

CAB 134/54-56

Commonwealth Consultative Committee (CCL)

25 Sept 1950 - 4 Oct 1950

Meetings: 9

Papers: 14

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1950 Sept: H T N Gaitskell, minister of state for economic affairs

Secretaries: 1950 Sept - Oct: O C Morland, Foreign Office

1950 Sept -Oct: J M Dutton, Commonwealth Relations Office

1950 Sept: J J S Shaw, Treasury

1950 Sept-Oct: E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee's meetings were attended by delegates from the UK, New Zealand, Australia, India, Pakistan, Canada and Ceylon. It discussed the development of Ceylon, the Federation of Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo and Sarawak under the Colombo plan and the setting up of the Commonwealth Council of Technical Co-operation. It also made plans for involving non-commonwealth countries in these developments.

See also Commonwealth Consultative Committee: Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia; Economic Development in South and South-East Asia; and Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Sub-Committee on the Popular Version of the Report on South and South-East Asia (the Colombo Plan).

CAB 133/7

Commonwealth Consultative Committee: Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia (TCL)

5 Oct 1950

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1950 Oct: J Thompson, Commonwealth Relations Office

Secretaries: 1950 Oct: J M Dutton, Commonwealth Relations Office

1950 E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office

The meeting discussed the setting up of the council and its executive arm, the Technical Assistance Bureau.

See also Commonwealth Consultative Committee; and Economic Development in South and South-East Asia.

CAB 133/7

Commonwealth Consultative Committee: Preliminary Meeting of Officials (CL(O)(50))

6 Sept 1950 - 10 Oct 1950 Meetings: 30 Papers: 47

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1950 Sept - Oct: R W B Clarke, Treasury

1950 Sept - Oct: H Wilson Smith, Treasury

Secretaries: 1950 Sept - Oct: E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office

1950 Sept - Oct: J M Dutton, Commonwealth Relations Office

The officials met to prepare a substantial report on economic development in South and South-East Asia and development programmes for individual territories including Malaya, North Borneo, Singapore and Ceylon.

See also Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Sub-Committee on the Popular Version of the Report on South and South-East Asia (the Colombo Plan).

CAB 133/8-11

Commonwealth Economic Affairs (GEN 393)

3 Dec 1951 Meetings: 1 Papers: 1

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1951 Dec: K Anderson, Treasury

Secretaries: 1951 Dec: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

1951 Dec: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee reviewed the activities of the Commonwealth Liaison Committee. It also discussed the source of responsibility for commonwealth conference arrangements and for trade and financial negotiations with commonwealth countries.

CAB 130/72

Commonwealth Economic Conference, Further Consultation (GEN 420)

15 Jan 1953 - 10 Apr 1953 Meetings: 7 Papers: 17

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1953 Jan - Apr: E Bridges, Treasury

The committee was concerned with preparations for a UK-USA meeting on proposals for combined action by the USA, the Commonwealth and Western Europe. The aim was to create freer trade and currencies as a basis for expanded world production and trade. The UK was proposing the convertibility of sterling as one means of expanding trade. The economic situations of sterling area territories were also examined. The UK delegate was briefed about commodity prices in the UK and USA, including information on raw materials from the colonies, development of production and US purchasing of sterling area raw materials.

Commonwealth Economic Development Committee (CED)

Under the general supervision of the Official Committee on Economic Development (qv), the committee reviewed the economic development of the seven fully self-governing commonwealth countries and of Southern Rhodesia and co-ordinated action by UK departments designed to foster such development. It focused on Southern Rhodesia and Ceylon in particular and briefly considered President Truman's 'Fourth Point'.

Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference Working Party (GEN 297)

The working party anticipated the lines of discussion on the financial situation in the Commonwealth and prepared five papers: 1) the general economic situation of the British empire (for example colonial import programmes and dollar expenditure); 2) measures which the UK and colonies were prepared to take to improve the situation (for example, by developing dollar earning raw materials in the sterling area and colonies); 3) measures which the UK and the sterling area could take to improve the situation; 4) discussions on economic matters with individual countries and 5) discussions with all commonwealth countries. The

balance of payments between the sterling area and the dollar area was a major concern.

CAB 130/53

Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Meeting: Preparatory Meeting of Officials on Short Term Balance of Payments Prospects (PFM(O)(BP)(53))

16 Nov 1953 - 24 Nov 1953

Meetings: 8

Papers: 5

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1953 Nov: F R P Vinter, Treasury

Secretary: 1953 Nov: K H Cadbury, Post Office

The officials met to consider the balance of payments outlook. They examined the sterling area as a whole between July 1952 and December 1954 and balance of payments forecasts for individual commonwealth countries; the colonies were examined as a group.

CAB 133/134

Commonwealth Liaison Committee (CLC)

14 May 1948 - 19 Dec 1957

Meetings: 230

Papers: 468

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairmen: 1948 May - 1949 Aug: R M Makins, Foreign Office

1948 June - 1954 Mar: J J S Garner, Commonwealth Relations Office

1949 May - July: W J Garnet, Commonwealth Relations Office

1949 Sept - 1951 Feb: C Syers, Commonwealth Relations Office

1949 Nov - 1954 Oct: A C B Symon, Commonwealth Relations Office

1951 June - 1952 July: G B Shannon, Commonwealth Relations Office

1952 Nov - 1957 July: A W Snelling, Commonwealth Relations Office

1953 June - July: L B Walsh Atkins, Commonwealth Relations Office

1953 Oct - Nov: D W S Hunt, Commonwealth Relations Office

1954 Apr - May: F A K Harrison, Commonwealth Relations Office

1954 May - 1957 Dec: H A F Rumbold, Commonwealth Relations Office

1954 June - 1956 Mar: J Thomson, Commonwealth Relations Office

1954 Dec - 1956 Oct: S Garner, Commonwealth Relations Office

1956 June: B R Curson, Commonwealth Relations Office

1956 July: I M R MacLennan, Commonwealth Relations Office

1956 Nov - 1957 Nov: H J B Lintott, Commonwealth Relations Office

1957 Oct: H E Davies, Commonwealth Relations Office

Secretaries: 1948 May - Nov: M E Allen, Commonwealth Relations Office

1948 July - 1949 Feb: H S H Stanley, Commonwealth Relations Office

1949 Feb - 1951 Aug: M J Moynihan, Commonwealth Relations Office

1949 May - Sept: J R Downie, Commonwealth Relations Office

1949 Aug - 1950 Dec: E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1949 Dec - 1950 May: Miss E J Beaven, Board of Trade
 1949 Dec - 1950 Apr: Miss L E Storar, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1950 Feb - 1951 Feb: Miss C M Anthony, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1950 May - 1952 Feb: Miss J B E Haydon, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1950 Dec - 1951 Feb: P G Oates, Treasury
 1951 Feb - 1952 Feb: Miss J M Haigh, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1951 Sept - 1953 Feb: E G Le Tocq, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1951 Nov - 1954 Dec: R G Britten, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1951 Nov: Miss J V Steen, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1951 Dec: Miss J M D Ward, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1952 Apr - Aug: Mrs C M Johnson, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1952 Apr - 1954 Nov: Miss R A Vining, Foreign Office
 1952 Sept: D J King, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1953 Jan - Apr: J A Stockwell, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1953 Feb - June: E C Thomas, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1953 May - 1955 Nov: J T T Boulton, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1953 Aug - 1955 June: J M Dutton, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1954 Apr - 1955 Apr: B D Tims, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1954 May - 1955 Jan: D G R Bentliff, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1954 Dec - 1955 Apr: J Gordon, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1955 Jan: W Ford, no details
 1955 Feb: J D Frazer, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1955 Feb - 1957 Nov: G L Simmons, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1955 Apr: R G Chisholm, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1955 Apr - 1956 Feb: R Cox, Board of Trade
 1955 Apr - June: D H Fowler, no details
 1955 Apr - Sept: W P G Thomson, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1955 Aug - 1956 Apr: P Cousin, Treasury
 1956 Feb - June: B E Mills, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1956 Apr - Nov: A J Brown, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1956 June - Sept: C J Hanbury, no details
 1956 Sept - Dec: C C Long, no details
 1957 Jan - May: J A Scott, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1957 May - Dec: R G Beer, no details
 1957 June: M Scott, Commonwealth Relations Office

The purpose of the committee was to provide information and exchange views on points of common interest concerning the European recovery programme and the Commonwealth. In the light of the 1947 sterling crisis, the committee's early considerations focused on sterling/dollar exchange rates, with emphasis on saving dollars by import substitution from the sterling area. It was hoped, for example, that the UK would increase its steel exports and also that dollar oil imports could be replaced. Colonial investment policy was discussed, as were the external economic situation of Ceylon and Southern Rhodesia and the work of the Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia. As the committee was concerned with

the International Materials Conference and its organization, it considered papers on numerous raw materials such as copper from Northern Rhodesia and manganese from the Gold Coast. In the early fifties the meetings examined colonial development and its objectives as well as sterling area balances for the colonies. Following the rapid rise in colonial sterling balances there had been public criticism that the UK was exploiting the colonies, since these balances were being used to repay the UK debt to the USA. Dollar investment in the sterling area was also considered, for instance in Southern Rhodesia, as were the budgets of Ceylon and Northern Rhodesia.

As CAB 133/186-191 are retained by the department, this information is incomplete.

See also T 229/296. Minutes of meetings are also in MAF 151/87-89.

CAB 133/18-24, 113-117, 140, 185-191

Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Steel Working Group (CLC(S))

9 Sept 1949 - 16 Dec 1949

Meetings: 3

Papers: 17

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairman: 1949 Sept: F E Budd, Central Economic Planning Staff

Secretary: 1949 Sept: P Nichols, Treasury

The working group considered problems arising out of the existing and prospective requirements of commonwealth countries and colonial territories for steel. It examined means of dealing with these problems, bearing in mind the objective of achieving a dollar balance at a high level of trade, as soon as possible. Its first task was to gather information on each country's requirements and probable supplies of steel for 1950.

CAB 133/27

Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Sub-Committee on the Popular Version of the Report on South and South-East Asia (also called Working Party on the Popular Version of the Colombo Plan) (CLC(PV)(50))

11 Oct 1950 - 24 Oct 1950

Meetings: 4

Papers: 8

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1950 Oct: M T Flett, Treasury

Secretaries: 1950 Oct: E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office

1950 Oct: R S Buer, Ministry of Food

The object of the popular version of the Colombo Plan was to enable leadership groups in countries in South and South-East Asia to publicize the contents of the plan. The committee was concerned with drafting the text and all aspects of its design and layout.

See also Commonwealth Consultative Committee: Preliminary Meeting of Officials.

CAB 133/26

Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Working Group on Processed Foodstuffs (CLC(F)(49))

15 Sept 1949 - 6 Dec 1949

Meetings: 6

Papers: 26

Subjects: foodstuffs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1949 Sept - Dec: C E Critchley, Senior Australian Government Trade Commission

Secretaries: 1949 Sept - Dec: F V Street, Australia

1949 Sept: Miss H A Street, no details

1949 Oct - Nov: Miss O H Harrison, no details

The working group was set up to consider problems arising out of the existing and prospective requirements of commonwealth countries and colonial territories for processed foodstuffs and ways and means of dealing with these problems, bearing in mind the objective of achieving a dollar balance on a high level of trade as soon as possible. It examined tables showing colonial imports from within the Commonwealth. It was hoped, for example, that Malaya might import dairy products from Australia and New Zealand instead of from the USA and Canada. It was felt that Canada should be allowed to continue its vital trade with the West Indies.

CAB 133/25

Commonwealth Meeting on Oil (CMO(50))

27 Mar 1950 - 4 Apr 1950

Meetings: 5

Papers: 10

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; oil

Chairman: 1950 Mar - Apr: V Butler, Ministry of Fuel and Power

Secretaries: 1950 Mar - Apr: W R G Bell, Ministry of Fuel and Power

1950 Mar - Apr: Miss J M Wardale, Commonwealth Relations Office

Oil being the largest single item among dollar payments in the sterling area, the committee's main concern was to agree a common approach to saving dollars on commonwealth oil expenditure. Substitution policy was examined as were tables showing British controlled companies' sterling area oil sales and gross consumption requirements of individual colonies and commonwealth countries.

CAB 133/29

Commonwealth Meeting on the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade CRG(54))

10 May 1954 - 12 Oct 1954

Meetings: 13

Papers: 18

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1954 Oct: F Lee, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1954 Oct: G L Simmons, Commonwealth Relations Office

1954 Oct: Miss G M McCleary, Board of Trade

The committee considered the forthcoming review of GATT and discussed modifications necessary in the light of a possible move towards convertibility as part of the trend towards freer trade and currencies. When commonwealth and colonial delegates put forward their points of view, the West Indians emphasized their vulnerable position in view of their near total dependence on the UK market and their need to protect their industries, especially canned fruit.

CAB 133/118

Commonwealth Relations (GEN 186)

2 June 1947 - 9 June 1947

Meetings: 2

Papers: 1

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1947 June: C R Attlee, prime minister

Secretaries: 1947 June: W S Murrie, Ministry of Health (Scotland)

1947 June: S E V Luke, Colonial Office

The committee was concerned with the transfer of power and future development of India, Burma and Ceylon and with proposals for a Commonwealth Relations Office to handle relations with the dominions, the Asian territories approaching independence and certain territories in the Middle and Far East. It also examined general constitutional issues such as the status and inter-relationships of different parts of the British Commonwealth, its structure and its future title.

CAB 130/20

Commonwealth Talks on Customs Unions: The United Kingdom Delegation (CU(H))

6 Dec 1947 - 18 Jan 1948

Meetings: 5

Papers: 18

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 Dec: Mr Shackle, no details

1947 Dec - 1948 Jan: Mr Holmes, no details

The committee discussed the Western European Customs Union from numerous angles including how it would affect the free trade area, its relation to GATT and various countries' responses to proposals for its establishment. Southern Rhodesia's newly formed customs union with South Africa was also discussed in terms of how it affected their general economies.

See also British Commonwealth Talks: Western European Customs Union.

CAB 133/38

Commonwealth Working Party on the Japanese Peace Treaty (CMJ)

5 May 1950 - 17 May 1950 Meetings: 11 Papers: 8

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1950 May: P C Gordon-Walker, secretary of state for commonwealth relations

1950 May: M E Denning, Foreign Office

Secretary: 1950 May: R Ross, Commonwealth Relations Office

The working party considered the details of the terms of a peace settlement for Japan. There was general agreement that all the countries represented on the Far Eastern Commission as well as Ceylon should be invited to participate in drafting a peace treaty.

CAB 133/28

Conferences with the Minister of State, Middle East (MSC(41))

26 Sept 1941 - 20 July 1943 Meetings: 14 Papers: 40

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1941 Sept: A Eden, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1941 Oct: J Anderson, lord president of the Council

1941 Oct - 1942 Dec: O Lyttelton, minister of state

1942 Dec - 1943 July: E G Casey, minister of state in the Middle East

1942 Dec: W Eady, Treasury

The committee was broadly concerned with the functions of the minister of state for the Middle East who represented the War Cabinet on the spot and carried out its policy. It also considered port and railway development in the Middle East; preparation for the operation of the air force in Cyprus, Syria and Iraq; the development of USA enterprises in the Middle East, including plants at Port Sudan and Basra-Shaiba and air mail services; and measures to combat inflation in the Middle East.

CAB 95/8

Co-ordination of Departmental Action in Event of War with Japan (JWB(40) and JWB(41))

30 Nov 1941 - 7 Dec 1941 Meetings: 5 Papers: 7

Subjects: defence; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1941 Nov - Dec: J C Sterndale-Bennett, Foreign Office

1941 Dec: O Sargent, Foreign Office

Secretary: 1941 Nov - Dec: J E Coulson, Ministry of Economic Warfare

The committee was concerned with the action to be taken by various departments, such as the Colonial Office and Ministry of Economic Warfare, in the event of war with Japan. In attempting to ensure the colonial governments' readiness it examined the instructions they had received, particularly in Sarawak, North Borneo and the Sudan, and the action already taken, especially in Malaya.

CAB 107/3

Cotton Industry (GEN 493)

31 Mar 1955 - 1 Apr 1955

Meetings: 2

Papers: 1

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1955 Mar: R A Butler, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary: 1955 Mar: F A Bishop, Ministry of Food

The committee considered the possibilities of introducing quotas on cloth from India and Hong Kong. It examined the potential problems of imposing import restrictions on goods from Hong Kong, including the implications for exports from other colonies.

CAB 130/109

Cyrenaica (GEN 260)

12 Nov 1948

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1948 Nov: H Dalton, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

Secretary: 1948 Nov: S E V Luke, Colonial Office

The committee examined draft documents on Cyrenaica including a trusteeship agreement, treaty, financial agreement and constitution. The exclusion of the grant of suffrage to women in the draft constitution was debated.

CAB 130/44

Defence Committee (DO)

11 Jan 1946 - 31 Dec 1957

Meetings: 287

Papers: 974

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1946 Jan - 1951 Sept: C R Attlee, prime minister

1946 Apr: Viscount Addison, secretary of state for dominions affairs
 1947 Apr - 1949 Apr: H V Alexander, minister of defence
 1951 Apr: E Shinwell, minister of defence
 1952 Mar - 1955 Mar: W S Churchill, prime minister
 1952 Apr - 1954 Jan: Earl Alexander of Tunis, minister of defence
 1955 Apr - 1956 Dec: A Eden, prime minister
 1955 June: S Lloyd, minister of defence
 1956 Feb: W Monckton, minister of defence
 1956 Nov - Dec: the Marquess of Salisbury, lord president of the Council
 1957 Jan - Dec: H Macmillan, prime minister

Secretaries: 1946 Jan - 1950 Nov: C R Price, Ministry of Defence
 1946 Dec - 1948 Aug: D C Stapleton, Ministry of Defence
 1946 Feb - 1949 Dec: W F Lamb, Ministry of Defence
 1946 Mar - Apr: P Gleadell, Ministry of Defence
 1946 Mar - 1947 Aug: P R M Waterfield, Ministry of Defence
 1946 Apr - Dec: J P W Samuelson, no details
 1946 June - 1947 Mar: T Haddon, no details
 1946 June: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office
 1947 June - Dec: A H Thorold, no details
 1946 Sept - Nov: J A M Phillips, no details
 1947 Mar: J K Gardiner, Ministry of Defence
 1947 Apr - Nov: W Evershed, Ministry of Defence
 1950 Jan: I Montgomery, Ministry of Defence
 1951 Feb - 1952 Mar: K McLean, War Office
 1953 Mar - 1955 Nov: R W Ewbank, Ministry of Defence
 1954 Jan - 1955 Nov: H Lovegrove, Ministry of Defence
 1954 Feb: F Wood, no details
 1954 Oct - 1955 Jan: K L Stock, Ministry of Fuel and Power
 1956 Dec - 1957 Dec: W G Stirling, Ministry of Defence

The committee was concerned with defence policy, facilities, forces and equipment, including the defence requirements of the Commonwealth and colonies. It examined British strategic requirements in the Middle East, particularly Palestine, including illegal Jewish immigration and the protection of the Haifa oil installation. It looked at the role of the colonies in war, the East and West African forces and the development of a line of communication across Africa. It showed increasing concern about the defence of South-East Asia and the situation in Malaya, where British troops were to be replaced with troops from East Africa and Fiji. Other matters considered included Malta's defence role; the US request for bases in the Pacific; the site for the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East; and the troop requirements of Africa, the West Indies and Malaya. The proceedings of the African Forces Conference in 1949 were also discussed.

Defence Committee (Operations) (DO)

10 May 1940 - 21 Dec 1945

Meetings: 190

Papers: 190

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1940 May: W S Churchill, first lord of the Admiralty; 1940 June - 1945 Jan: prime minister and minister of defence

1940 May: O G Stanley, secretary of state for war

1940 May: N Chamberlain, lord president of the Council

1941 Jan - 1952 Aug: C R Attlee, lord privy seal; 1942 Feb - 1944 Jan: secretary of state for dominions affairs and deputy prime minister; 1945 Aug-Dec: prime minister

1941 Apr: L S Amery, secretary of state for India

1943 Oct: S Cripps, minister of defence

Secretaries: 1940 Oct - 1941 Mar: A D Nicholl, no details

1940 July: D Sandys, no details

1945 Aug - Dec: D C Stapleton, Ministry of Defence

1945 Aug: S Secord, no details

1945 Oct: T Haddon, no details

1945 Dec: P Gleadell, no details

The committee kept the strategic situation under review, including the main outlines of forthcoming operations, and carried out preliminary examinations of matters specially referred to it. It examined questions such as the future operations in the South-East Asia Command, the basing of the British Pacific Fleet at Hong Kong, the repatriation of East and West Africans from India and the Far East, the general situation in the Middle East and Palestine; and the defence of Malaya, Ceylon and Malta.

Prior to July 1941 the papers brought before this committee were from the Cabinet Office or Chiefs of Staffs series. Thereafter it established its own series of memoranda.

CAB 69/1-8

Defence Committee (Supply): Sub-Committee on the Allocation of Small Arms Ammunition (SAA)

7 Nov 1940 - 19 Dec 1945

Meetings: 63

Papers: 293

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1940 Nov - 1941 June: C Courtney, Air Ministry

1941 July - 1942 June: G N Macready, assistant chief of Imperial General Staff

1941 Oct: L D Hickes, War Office

1942 Jan - 1945 July: A W F Burton, Admiralty

1945 May - Dec: K D G Collier, Air Ministry

Secretary: 1944 Mar - Oct: F Lawton, no details

While the committee was primarily concerned with the production of small arms and munitions, especially in North America, the UK, Australia and South Africa, it was also concerned with requirements and supply. In this regard it examined small arms production in the Middle East, the Far East, East Africa and Ceylon, and it looked at ways in which levels could be maintained, for instance through the transfer of surplus stocks.

CAB 70/8-13

Defence Negotiations with Egypt (GEN 442)

11 Sept 1953

Meetings: 1

Papers: 3

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1953 Sept: H F C Crookshank, lord privy seal

The committee was concerned with obtaining international agreement on the necessity for freedom of passage in the Suez Canal Zone. Proposals for the agreement focused on the economic commercial and strategic importance of the canal and a common international desire for a powerful base in the Middle East.

See also Egypt: Defence Negotiations (CAB 130/100).

CAB 130/95

Definition of Functions of the Colonial Development Corporation and the Overseas Food Corporation (GEN 196)

17 Oct 1947 - 17 Oct 1947

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

The committee met only once to define the functions of the two bodies and thereby avoid the possibility that plans for development in the colonies would be interpreted as exploitative. The Colonial Development Corporation was to promote the expansion of supplies of food throughout the Colonial Empire, while the Overseas Food Corporation was to encourage growth of foodstuffs for export to the UK.

CAB 130/27

Discussions on Agenda under Article 7 of the Mutual Aid Agreement: UK Delegation (AD)

Sept 1943 - 14 Oct 1943

Meetings: 14

Papers: 27

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1943 Sept-Oct: R Law, Foreign Office

1943 Oct: J J Llewellyn, minister resident in Washington for supply/Ministry of Production

Secretaries: 1943 Sept-Oct: A W Snelling, Dominions Office

1943 Sept-Oct: A S J Baster, Paymaster-General's Office

The committee discussed the procedure to be adopted for talks in Washington. Subjects to be covered included setting up a United Nations bank for reconstruction and development and an international monetary unit. The committee also examined how the colonies would be affected by foreign investment. The colonial currency system was explained for reference.

CAB 99/33

Discussions on the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty (GEN 211)

9 Jan 1948

Meetings: 1

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1948 Jan: C R Attlee, prime minister

Secretaries: 1948 Jan: L C Hollis, Ministry of Defence

1948 Jan: D C Stapleton, Ministry of Defence

The committee considered the points which were still outstanding in the Anglo-Iraqi treaty negotiations, such as the extent to which the UK should provide arms and equipment for Iraq.

CAB 130/31

Disturbances in Jordan (GEN 513)

9 Jan 1956 - 23 Jan 1956

Meetings: 3

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1956 Jan: A Eden, prime minister

Secretaries: 1956 Jan: H Lovegrove, Ministry of Defence

1956 Jan: P G Wykeham, Ministry of Defence

1956 Jan: N Brownjohn, Ministry of Defence

The committee discussed the action to be taken to protect British subjects in Jordan in the event of a recurrence of disorders. For instance, it considered speedy removal of forces from the Canal Zone to Cyprus to render them available for service in Jordan. It also discussed Anglo-Egyptian relations with reference to the Egyptian government's part in fermenting disturbances in Jordan.

CAB 130/111

Economic Advisory Council (EAC)

17 Feb 1930 - 15 Jan 1932

Meetings: 14

Subjects: research; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1930 Feb - 1932 Jan: J Ramsay MacDonald, prime minister
 1930 Apr: J H Thomas, lord privy seal

The Economic Advisory Council, established in January 1930, succeeded the Committee of Civil Research (qv). The new council, which included ministers and outside experts, was charged with advising the government on economic matters. After January 1932 it did not meet formally, but performed its work through committees and sub-committees (qv). The council ceased to exist in 1939. A history of the functions of the Committee of Civil Research and the Economic Advisory Council is in CAB 58/16 and this information is summarized in the introductory note to CAB 58. See also Section 1.3.4.

CAB 58/2

Economic Advisory Council: Committee for the Application of the Convention for the Protection of Fauna and Flora (EAC(FFC))

[1936]

Papers: 4

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairman: F Hemming, Economic Advisory Council
 Secretary: D H F Rickett, Economic Advisory Council

The committee considered the measures to be taken by the British government to apply the convention for the protection of fauna and flora in their natural state, which was signed in London on 8 November 1933. It considered proposals by the commissioner of Somaliland and the governor of Kenya which included the establishment of national parks. It also considered official UK recognition of the international office for the protection of nature in Brussels.

CAB 58/198

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on the (Cotton) Industry

See Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on the Cotton Industry

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Education and Supply of Biologists (EAC(ESB))

26 Mar 1930 - 26 Mar 1931

Meetings: 21

Papers: 171

Subjects: research

Chairman: 1930 Mar - 1931 Mar: Viscount Chelmsford, Mines Department
 Secretary: 1930 Mar - 1931 Mar: G H Creasy, Colonial Office

At the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference in 1927 attention was drawn to the shortage of trained biologists, especially in the colonial agricultural service. The committee was set up to examine the reasons for this shortage and how to overcome it. Although its major concern was the teaching of biology in schools to an advanced level, the posts available for biologists in the colonies were examined territory by territory and in the Sudan. The council's papers include a report on biology and the biologists' approach to native education in East Africa.

CAB 58/158-162

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Empire Migration (EAC(EM))

22 July 1930 - 22 June 1931 Meetings: 20 Papers: 110

Subjects: migration

Chairman: 1930 July - 1931 June: Viscount Astor no details; 1931 British delegate to the
 League of Nations Assembly
 Secretary: 1930 July - 1931 June: W J Garnett, Oversea Settlement Department

The committee was set up to consider the economic aspects of migration from Britain to various parts of the empire in the immediate future and the longer term, and to advise whether government action to stimulate such migration was economically desirable. It was primarily concerned with emigration to the dominions, but emigration to certain African territories such as Swaziland and Tanganyika was considered briefly and recent policy in Kenya on land alienation and settlement was reviewed.

CAB 58/163-166

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Empire Trade, 1930 (EAC(ET))

4 Mar 1930 - 5 June 1930 Meetings: 4 Papers: 12

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1930 Mar - June: A Balfour, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research
 Secretary: 1930 Mar - June: A E Overton, Board of Trade

The committee considered the nature of empire trade, the effect of tariff preferences and the future trade relations between Britain and the dominions as background to the meeting of the imperial conference at the end of September 1930. Although principally concerned with the dominions, the committee made frequent reference to the colonial empire. The history and results of imperial preference were examined and examples were given of tariff preferences on colonial commodities such as cocoa, sugar and rum.

CAB 58/149

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Locust Control

See Committee of Civil Research: Sub-Committee on Locust Control

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Locust Control: Finance Sub-Committee (EAC(L)(F))

5 July 1934 - 10 Aug 1936

Meetings: 7

Papers: 16

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairman: 1934 July - 1936 Aug: F Hemming, Economic Advisory Council

The sub-committee was set up to prepare a document showing the state of financing for locust control investigations. Originally the Empire Marketing Board had supplied most of the funding, but after it was dissolved in 1934 financing was a problem. The sub-committee managed to secure funding from the Carnegie Corporation in New York and from colonial governments.

See AY 11 for references of locust control committees.

CAB 58/80

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Locust Control: Red Locust Control Sub-Committee (EAC(L)(RLC))

18 Aug 1936

Meetings: 1

Papers: 5

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairman: 1936 Aug: F Hemming, Economic Advisory Council

The sub-committee was set up to advise on the form of international organization needed to supervise the outbreak centres of the red locust; the British government would then attempt to secure acceptance for the proposals at the forthcoming negotiations with South Africa and subsequently with the Belgian and Portuguese governments. The sub-committee was to estimate the probable cost of such an organization and the share which British colonial and other territories might be invited to contribute. The main outbreak areas of locust swarms were in parts of Northern Rhodesia and Tanganyika, but the problem concerned all of the surrounding region because of the size of the swarms and their unpredictable movements. It was emphasized that future schemes should aim at the control of all types of locusts, and in 1937 the sub-committee was reconstituted as the Sub-Committee on the Control of Outbreak Areas (qv).

See AY 11 for references of locust control committees.

CAB 58/81

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Locust Control: Sub-Committee on the Control of Outbreak Areas (EAC(L)(COA))

28 Jan 1938 - 20 Oct 1938

Meetings: 3

Papers: 14

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairman: 1938 Jan - Oct: G A K Marshall, Imperial Institute of Entomology

This was a reconstitution of the Red Locust Control Sub-Committee (qv) with essentially the same mandate, but covering red locusts, desert locusts and African migratory locusts which were invading vast areas of Africa and Western Asia. It was hoped that greater knowledge of outbreak areas would foster preventive control policies. Under the proposed scheme every country or territory liable to invasion by a particular species would contribute towards the funds for its control.

See AY 11 for references of locust control committees.

CAB 58/82

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Nutrition in the Colonial Empire (EAC (NCE))

24 Nov 1936 - 3 Apr 1939

Meetings: 4

Papers: 217

Subjects: research

Chairmen: 1936 Nov - 1939 Apr: Earl de la Warr, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the colonies

1937 Feb: G L M Clauson, assistant secretary, Colonial Office

Secretary: 1936 Nov - 1937 Dec: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

The committee was set up to survey information on nutrition in the colonial empire in the light of the replies to the Colonial Office circular despatch of 18 April 1936, and to advise on measures to promote and apply knowledge in this field. The previous twenty years had seen an upsurge in research on nutrition and the relationship between poor diet and disease, and the committee amassed further information on nutrition in the empire. Most territories received some attention. For instance, dietary surveys were undertaken in some colonies and reports of available foods and eating habits were received from Jamaica, Nigeria and the Gambia. The nutritional value of various substances such as palm oil was examined. The committee produced a report in two parts: nutrition in the colonial empire and summary of information regarding nutrition in the colonial empire.

CAB 58/199-205

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Nutrition in the Colonial Empire: Drafting Sub-Committee (EAC(NCE)(P))

9 Dec 1937 - 20 July 1938

Meetings: 3

Papers: 74

Subjects: research

Chairman: 1937 Dec - 1938 July: E M H Lloyd, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Secretary: 1937 Dec - 1938 July: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

The sub-committee examined the summary of replies to the circular despatch on nutrition (see Committee on Nutrition in the Colonial Empire) transmitted to colonial governments and suggested the terms of communications to some of the governments requesting additional information. Other subjects considered included ways of spreading information on this subject, such as advertising and broadcasting; the provision of food for labourers; and the place of sugar in the diet.

CAB 58/206-207

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Nutrition in the Colonial Empire: Research Sub-Committee (EAC(NCE)(R))

10 Dec 1937 - 15 Mar 1938

Meetings: 3

Papers: 12

Subjects: research

Chairman: 1937 Dec - 1938 Mar: E Mellanby, Medical Research Council

Secretary: 1937 Dec - 1938 Mar: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

The sub-committee prepared a co-ordinated plan of field surveys and research on the problem of nutrition in the colonial empire. The committee felt that more field work was needed on nutrition rather than complex laboratory work. It looked at territories where field work had been undertaken, such as Northern Rhodesia and Malta, and at territories where it had been proposed, such as Cyprus and the Gold Coast.

CAB 58/208

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on Scientific Research (EAC(SR))

21 Apr 1938 - 4 Mar 1938

Meetings: 17

Papers: 172

Subjects: research

Chairman: 1932 Apr - 1938 Mar: Sir Daniel Hall, no details

The committee examined the work of various sub-committees of the Economic Advisory Council, such as the Tsetse Fly Committee and Irrigation Research Committees, giving

particular attention to the work of the Committee on Locust Control. Most of its reports were on domestic subjects, but its fifth report concerned the supply and production of quinine and emphasized the problem of securing adequate supplies for Africa, Malaya and India. It was proposed that quinine production should be increased in the colonial empire.

CAB 58/25-29

Economic Advisory Council: Committee on United Kingdom Representation at International Meetings (EAC(IC))

20 Jan 1931 - 22 June 1939

Meetings: 14

Papers: 83

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1931 Jan: G Buchanan, Ministry of Health

1931 Apr: D T Chadwick, Imperial Economic Committee

1931 Jan: S Gaselee, Foreign Office

1931 Jun - 1936 June: A F Hemming, Economic Advisory Council

1932 Apr: L Earle, HM Office of Works

1939 June: F Stockdale, agricultural adviser to secretary of state for colonies

In addition to reviewing UK representation at international meetings, the committee discussed the reports and proceedings that the meetings produced. Its considerations included the International Coffee Congress (1931) and coffee growing in the British empire, particularly in East Africa; the International Congress for the Protection of Nature (1931) and measures to control hunting in Africa; the Meeting of the Pacific Science Association in Fiji; and the 9th International Congress of Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture (1941).

CAB 58/83-85

Economic Advisory Council: Fauna and Flora of Asia Committee: Sub-Committee for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Asia, Australia and New Zealand (EAC(FFA))

12 July 1934 - 6 July 1939

Meetings: 7

Papers: 199

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1934 July - 1939 July: the Earl of Onslow, Office of the House of Peers

With the action taken in 1933 to secure application of the Convention for the Preservation of the Fauna and Flora of Africa, the principle of the need for preservation was established, and there was a move to extend it to Asia. The committee was set up to determine whether international action was necessary and possible and whether the British government should summon an international conference to deal with the matter. The flora and fauna of individual Asian territories were considered and the committee looked at action taken by governments in Africa, including setting up national parks and game and forest reserves. A conference was

proposed for the protection of fauna and flora in Africa, Tropical Asia and Western Pacific to be held in November 1939, but it was postponed indefinitely because of the war.

CAB 58/193-196

Economic Advisory Council: Preparatory Committee for the International Conference for the Protection of Fauna and Flora of Africa, 1933 (EAC(PFF))

3 Nov 1932 - 26 July 1933

Meetings: 7

Papers: 85

Subjects: Africa; international bodies and conferences; research

Chairman: 1932 Nov - 1933 July: Earl of Onslow, Office of the House of Peers

The committee considered preparations for an international conference in London in 1933 to draw up a convention for the preservation of the natural fauna and flora of Africa. It agreed that the aim of the British delegation should be the creation of national parks by governments in each African territory and the establishment of nature reserves. It also considered restrictions on traffic in skins, ivory and rhinoceros horn and prohibitions against hunting and killing of certain animals.

CAB 58/87-88

Economic Advisory Council: Preparatory Committee for the International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa, 1933: Drafting Sub Committee (EAC(PFF)(D))

3 May 1933 - 21 June 1933

Meetings: 3

Papers: 4

Subjects: Africa; international bodies and conferences; research

Chairman: 1933 May - June: F Hemming, joint secretary, Economic Advisory Council

The committee was set up to prepare a draft of the provisions of the revised international convention.

CAB 58/89

Economic Advisory Council: Second International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa : Interdepartmental Committee of Organization (EAC(FF)(D))

29 Mar 1938 - 7 Apr 1938

Meetings: 2

Papers: 1

Subjects: Africa; international bodies and conferences; research

Chairman: 1938 Mar - Apr: Hemming, Economic Advisory Council

The committee considered and reported in detail on arrangements for the International Conference for the protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa, to be held in accordance with

the terms of the protocol signed in London on 8 November 1933. This was the second such conference.

CAB 58/94

Economic Advisory Council: Sub-Committee on Financial Questions (EAC(S1)(31))

22 Sept 1931 - 9 Mar 1932

Meetings: 12

Papers: 8

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1931 Sept - 1932 Jan: J R MacDonald, prime minister

1932 Jan - Mar: R McKenna, no details

1932 Feb: Sir J Stamp, no details

This sub-committee was originally constituted as the Prime Minister's Advisory Committee on Financial Questions. It advised the prime minister on financial questions from both the domestic and international standpoints. The major issue discussed was the policy for pound sterling and the question of restoring the gold standard or the adoption of a sterling standard. The British empire other than South Africa was no longer on the gold standard and the development of a sterling group of countries was raised. Reparations, war debts and problems arising from the suspension of gold payment were also discussed.

CAB 58/169

Economic Advisory Council: Sub-Committee on Locust Control: Aircraft Experiments Sub-Committee (EAC(L)(K)/(A))

6 Oct 1932 - 5 Mar 1936

Meetings: 13

Papers: 133

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairmen: 1932 Nov - 1936 Mar: A F Hemming, Economic Advisory Council

The sub-committee was originally constituted as the Kenya Experiments Sub-Committee and was concerned with proposals for the experimental use of aircraft in combating the locust problem in Kenya. When the number of locusts dwindled there the experiments were transferred to Northern Rhodesia, and the title was changed to Aircraft Experiments Sub-Committee in August 1933. It considered such questions as the design of apparatus for the discharge of poison dust and the cost of experiments.

See AY 11 for references of locust control committees.

CAB 58/78-79

Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee

See Committee of Civil Research: Tsetse Fly Sub-Committee

Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee: Closer Union Sub-Committee (EAC(TF)(CU))

29 May 1931 - 10 June 1931

Meetings: 2

Papers: 1

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairman: 1931 May - June: A F Hemming, joint secretary, Economic Advisory Council

The committee considered closer union on tsetse fly research of interest to the East African territories as a whole.

CAB 58/52

Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee: East Africa Sub-Committee (EAC(TF)(EA))

9 July 1934 - 30 Feb 1937

Meetings: 8

Papers: 21

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairmen: 1934 July - 1936 Dec: F Hemming, secretary, Economic Advisory Council

1937 Feb: C M Wenyon, Director-in-Chief, Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research

The sub-committee examined the report of the Conference on Tsetse Fly and Trypanosomiasis Research held at Entebbe in November 1933 and the discussions at the governors' conference in Nairobi in May 1934. Amongst the methods of control discussed was concentrating the population in larger settlements to enable destruction of the flies' environment and producing serum for vaccination.

CAB 58/53-54

Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee: Game Sub-Committee (EAC(TF)(G))

19 Nov 1930 - 1 Jan 1931

Meetings: 4

Papers: 12

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairman: 1930 Nov - 1931 Jan: G A K Marshall, Imperial Institute of Entomology

The sub-committee considered the relation of game preservation to agricultural progress, particularly husbandry. It was felt that game ordinances needed to be updated and that further use should be made of game reserves.

CAB 58/51

Economic Advisory Council: Tsetse Fly Committee: Tanganyika Sub-Committee (EAC(TF)(T))

29 Jan 1936 - 19 Mar 1936

Meetings: 2

Papers: 15

Subjects: Africa; research

Chairman: 1936 Jan - Mar: F Hemming, Economic Advisory Council

The sub-committee was set up to examine a report by C F M Swynnerton, director of the Tsetse Fly Research Department in Tanganyika Territory, on an ecological study of the East African tsetse fly and its control. It also considered other papers bearing on the work of his department. It prepared a report summarizing the principal results obtained by the department, indicating the lines along which its work should be continued and recommending the annual costs of investigations between 1937 and 1939.

CAB 58/54

Economic Committee (Washington) (EC(W))

14 Nov 1949 - 20 Dec 1955

Meetings: 248

Papers: 56

Subjects: international bodies and conferences; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1949 Nov - 1951 July: L Rowan, Treasury

1950 July - 1951 Sept: S Caine, Treasury

1951 Aug - Dec: C Empson, no details

1951 Aug - 1952 July: A Christelow, Treasury

1951 Sept - 1953 Dec: D H F Rickett, Treasury

1952 Dec: L Waight, Ministry of Materials

1955 Jan - Dec: Lord Harcourt, Treasury

1955 Feb - Nov: I P Garran, Foreign Office

1955 Nov: M T Flett, Treasury

The Washington Committee was the major international economic committee. It dealt with general economic matters relating to the UK and the USA, including raw materials, especially tin and rubber. Its concern also extended to commonwealth and colonial economic affairs. The subjects it considered included colonial development, steel for the colonies, Malayan tin, rice shortages in the colonies, colonial trade with the USA, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development loans to the colonies, US aid to South-East Asia, the Mutual Security Act and sterling area balance of payments.

CAB 134/180-181, 862-865

Economic Development in South and South-East Asia (SEAL)

2 Oct 1950 - 4 Oct 1950

Meetings: 4

Papers: 4

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1950 Oct: H T N Gaitskell, minister of state for economic affairs

Secretary: 1950 Oct: O C Morland, Foreign Office

1950 Oct: J M Dutton, Commonwealth Relations Office

1950 Oct: E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office

Delegates for non-commonwealth governments were invited to London for discussions about the Colombo Plan.

See also Commonwealth Consultative Committee; and Commonwealth Consultative Committee: Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia.

CAB 133/7

Economic Planning Board (EPB)

22 Jan 1948 - 6 Dec 1956

Meetings: 81

Papers: 188

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1948 Jan - 1953 Oct: E N Plowden, Treasury

1948 Apr: J Woods, Ministry of Supply

1950 Apr - 1956 Feb: B Gilbert, Treasury

1953 Dec: R A Butler, chancellor of the Exchequer

1956 Oct - Dec: R Makins, Treasury

Secretaries: 1948 Jan - Dec: J G Stewart, Ministry of Labour and National Service

1948 Jan - Dec: D A V Allen, Treasury

1948 Aug: R L Harris, Treasury

1949 May - Nov: F R P Vinter, Treasury

1951 Jan - 1953 Oct: D O Henley, Treasury

1951 Mar - Nov: A Savage, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

1952 Jan: J Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

1953 July - 1955 Feb: F A Bishop, Ministry of Food

1953 Sept - 1945 Feb: K H Cadbury, Post Office

1953 Oct: E P Wright, Treasury

1953 Oct: N S Forward, Treasury

1953 Dec - 1955 July: J Littlewood, Treasury

1956 Feb: B Thimont, Treasury

1956 Oct: K Taylor, Treasury

The board was established as a forum for discussion and was primarily concerned with domestic matters. It also examined economic surveys and balance of payments and trade in the Far East. In 1952 it was particularly concerned with determining measures to improve the UK and sterling area balance of payments and reserves with the objective of eliminating deficits with non-sterling areas to achieve a gold and dollar surplus. Later attention turned to various

problems which might arise for the UK and sterling area in the event of a recession in the USA. Finally the committee examined reports by the Overseas Negotiations Committee (qv) on the state of trade between the UK and the rest of the sterling area on the one hand, and with the Middle East on the other.

See also Programmes Committee: Working Party on the Effects of a United States Recession.

CAB 134/210-214, 877-881

Economic Policy Committee (EA/EP)

9 Oct 1947 - Dec 1959

Meetings: 363

Papers: 1590

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 Oct - 1951 July: C R Attlee, prime minister

1948 Sept: E Bevin, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1948 Sept - 1951 June: H Morrison, lord president of the Council

1951 Nov - 1955 Dec: R A Butler, chancellor of the Exchequer

1952 Feb - May: Lord Woolton, lord president of the Council

1953 Feb - 1955 Mar: Viscount Swinton, secretary of state for commonwealth relations

1953 July: Viscount Woolton, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

1957 Jan - Dec: P Thorneycroft, chancellor of the Exchequer

1957 Dec: D Eccles, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1948 July: R J P Hewison, Home Office

1948 Nov - 1950 Mar: A Johnston, Home Office

1948 Dec - 1949 Apr: C A L Cliffe, Foreign Office

1950 Jan - Nov: G Wilson, HM Customs and Excise

1950 May - July: R B Marshall, Ministry of Works

1950 June - 1952 Dec: O C Morland, Foreign Office

1950 Sept - 1951 Feb: R S Buer, Ministry of Food

1952 Mar - Apr: K H Herde, no details

1952 June - 1955 Feb: K H Cadbury, Post Office

1952 Oct - 1953 May: N J P Hutchison, Home Office

1953 Apr - 1955 Mar: F A Bishop, Ministry of Food

1957 Jan - Dec: I P Bancroft, Office of Lord Privy Seal

1957 Apr: H O Hooper, Board of Trade

The committee had general oversight of internal and external financial and economic policy and ensured a proper balance between civil and military demands on the national economy. Its concerns were broad and it made many general economic surveys. It examined economic aspects of the empire, the sterling area, raw materials, import and export programmes and trading considerations in the light of post-war economic development. GATT was a major concern, and the protection of colonial imports was emphasized. Other relevant concerns included the International Wheat Agreement; sugar production, including sugar negotiations concerning producers in the West Indies, South Africa, Mauritius, Fiji and East Africa; the

West Indian citrus and cigar industries; cotton imports; tin and coffee and decontrol of coffee and rice. Rice supplies from the African territories and the West Indies were considered as strategic alternatives to supplies from Siam and Burma. Miscellaneous considerations included the special United Nations Fund for Economic Development, the Colombo Plan and stocks of raw materials.

During 1957 the committee was largely concerned with the Suez crisis. It also examined the possibility of associating the overseas territories with the European Customs and Economic Union and the European Industrial Free Trade Area, and it looked at the possibility of other sources of London finance for colonial development as the Colonial Development Corporation had exhausted its borrowing powers. As pieces 1678-1684 are still closed this information is incomplete.

See also T 238/110-111 (1948-1953); CO 537.

CAB 134/215-230, 841-855, 1226-1231, 1674-1684

Economic Policy Committee: Sub-Committee on Economic Measures (EP(EM))

13 Nov 1956 - 28 Nov 1956

Meetings: 5

Papers: 6

Subjects: Middle East; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1956 Nov: H Macmillan, chancellor of the Exchequer

The sub-committee was mainly concerned with the economic implications for the UK of the situation in the Middle East, but it was also involved with securing commonwealth co-operation on economic measures arising out of the crisis. The implications of gas and diesel oil restrictions were considered along with the advantages and disadvantages of increased taxes on petrol and oil as a means of reducing consumption. The effects of the closure of the Suez Canal on the supply of other raw materials to the UK, such as rubber from Malaya and cotton from the Sudan, were also examined.

CAB 34/1232

Economic Policy Committee: Sub-Committee on Jamaican Cigar Industry (EP(J))

3 Oct 1955

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: West Indies

Chairman: 1955 Oct: D Heathcoat-Amory, minister of agriculture, fisheries and food
Secretary: 1955 Oct: F A Bishop, Ministry of Food

The committee looked into the possibility of helping the Jamaican cigar industry by changing the duties on Jamaican cigars and/or revising the quota on Cuban cigars.

CAB 134/1233

Economic Policy Committee: Sub-Committee on the Removal of Quantitative Restrictions and Tariff Policy (EP(QT))

[1955]

Papers: 1

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

The sub-committee was set up to supervise studies of the problems involved in the removal of quantitative import restrictions and the revision of tariff policy. It had no meetings and did not produce memoranda, but its proposed work seems to have coincided with that of the Economic Steering Committee Sub-Committee on the Removal of Quantitative Restrictions and Tariff Policy (qv).

CAB 134/1235

Economic Position (GEN 388)

10 Oct 1951 - 2 Nov 1951

Meetings: 3

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1951 Oct: R A Butler, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary: 1951 Oct - Nov: O C Morland, Foreign Office

The committee considered remedies for the economic situation, including cuts in food imports. The secretary of state for the colonies was concerned that the colonies should not be deprived of urgently needed manufactured goods for the sake of increasing UK exports to dollar destinations. He also stated that he was examining the possibility of obtaining increased imports from the colonies.

CAB 130/72

Economic Steering Committee: Sub-Committee on Closer Economic Association with Europe: Working Party on Special Session of the GATT (ES(EI)(G)(57))

5 Mar 1957 - 20 Dec 1957

Meetings: 12

Papers: 23

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1957 Mar - Dec: C W Saunders, Board of Trade

Secretary: 1957 Mar - Dec: Miss A M Lough, Board of Trade

The working party examined policy considerations which would determine the attitude of the UK representatives at the forthcoming special session of GATT and made recommendations to the Sub-Committee on Closer Economic Association with Europe. It looked at questions on the Treaty of Rome, commonwealth trade interests in the European market and commonwealth views on the dependent territories of the European powers being allowed to join the proposed

European customs union and free trade area. It also discussed issues relating to colonial products which required negotiation at the session, for instance ground nut oil from Nigeria. Products from the West Indies, such as bananas, and from Cyprus were given special attention.

CAB 134/1880

Economic Steering Committee: Sub-Committee on Closer Economic Association with Europe: Working Party on the Colonies (ES(E1)(C)(56)(57))

6 May 1956 - 26 Feb 1957

Meetings: 6

Papers: 15

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1956 Nov - 1957 Feb: W B L Monson, Colonial Office

Secretary: 1956 Nov - 1957 Feb: F H Jackson, Colonial Office

The committee was concerned with the proposed European Common Market (consisting of six European countries) and the partial free trade area (which included Scandinavia), their relationship to the dependent territories and whether or not the territories should be included. Some colonial industries were dependent on the UK home market, for instance pineapple and banana production, and consideration was given to possible new European markets for colonial products. Tables showing potential markets and commodities were examined as well as the effects on individual colonial territories of change in trade patterns.

CAB 134/1878

Economic Steering Committee: Sub-Committee on Economic Measures (ES(EM))

13 Nov 1956 - 18 Dec 1956

Meetings: 7

Papers: 22

Subjects: Middle East; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1956 Nov - Dec: R Makins, Treasury

Secretary: 1956 Nov - Dec: M Widdup, Treasury

The committee was set up to consider economic questions arising from the Suez Crisis and to carry out studies for the ministerial sub-committee of the Economic Policy Committee (qv). It was concerned that closure of the canal might disrupt supplies of oil and raw materials and lead to congested shipping in East and South African ports. The Colonial Office emphasized the necessity of maintaining fuel supplies to the colonies, particularly Malaya and Singapore which depended heavily on kerosene, and pointed out the political implications of shortages and rationing.

CAB 134/1242

Economic Steering Committee: Sub-Committee on the Removal of Quantitative Restrictions and Tariff Policy (ED(QT))

19 Oct 1955 - 16 May 1957

Meetings: 17

Papers: 42

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1955 Oct - 1957 May: F Lee, Board of Trade

Secretary: 1955 Nov - 1957 May: M Widdup, Treasury

The committee co-ordinated studies of the problems involved in removing quantitative restrictions and revising tariff policy. It debated whether powers to impose tariffs on commonwealth goods applied to colonial territories and the effect the removal of quantitative restrictions in the UK would have on colonial commodities, particularly on tobacco in the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. It considered the need to protect colonial industries and prepared an outline of possible machinery for advice on tariffs.

See also Economic Policy Committee: Sub-Committee on the Removal of Quantitative Restrictions and Tariff Policy.

CAB 134/1243-1244, 1904

Economic Survey Working Party (ESWP)

18 Feb 1953 - 8 Feb 1956

Meetings: 3

Papers: 56

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1953 Feb - 1955 Feb: W Strath, Treasury

1956 Feb: R W B Clarke, Treasury

Secretaries: 1953 Feb - 1955 Feb: E P Wright, Treasury

1956 Feb: F J Atkinson, Treasury

The working party prepared memoranda in 1948-1949, but met only between 1953 and 1956. It was concerned with yearly economic surveys which examined the UK's changing economic prospects and with providing long term economic trade forecasts. It made scattered references to the dependent territories, and many of the raw materials and foodstuffs it examined were of unstated colonial origin. The surveys included such subjects as balance of payments, gold and dollar forecasts in the sterling area, prospects for output and imports and exports. The accompanying tables show increases and decreases in imports of raw materials and foodstuffs, and those for 1948-1949 included exports to the Commonwealth and colonies, for instance chemical exports to West Africa and Malaya. In the 1950s there were frequent references to copper from Northern Rhodesia.

CAB 134/267-268, 892-893

Egyptian Agreement Committee (EAC(27))

27 July 1927 - 27 Nov 1927

Meetings: 2

Papers: 2

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1927 July: A Chamberlain, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1927 Nov: S Baldwin, prime minister

Secretary: 1927 July: C M Patrick, Foreign Office

The committee proposed a number of amendments to Sarwat Pasha's draft of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of Alliance and Friendship which provided for further negotiations on the Sudan.

CAB 27/351**Egypt and Sudan (GEN 421)**

16 Jan 1953 - 31 Jan 1953

Meetings: 3

Subjects: Africa

Chairmen: 1953 Jan: A Eden, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1953 Jan: W S Churchill, prime minister

Secretary: 1953 Jan: R Allen, Foreign Office

The committee discussed the proposed Anglo-Egyptian treaty for control of the Sudan. The Egyptian reply, containing over forty proposed amendments to the British draft, was considered and the committee was particularly concerned about the future of the three southern provinces. It appeared that the Egyptians wished to supplant the British in the Sudan and would not accept any agreement whereby the Sudanese retained British advisers in the south. At the same time public opinion seemed to be strongly against any arrangement with the Egyptian Government which did not provide adequate safeguards for the southern provinces.

CAB 130/83**Egypt Committee (EC)**

27 July 1956 - 21 Nov 1956

Meetings: 46

Papers: 69

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1956 July - Nov: A Eden, prime minister

1956 Oct - Nov: R A Butler, lord privy seal

Secretaries: 1956 July: D S Laskey, Foreign Office

1956 July - Sept: H O Hooper, Board of Trade

1956 July - Oct: P R Odgers, Ministry of Education

1956 July: A D M Ross, Foreign Office
 1956 Aug - Nov: W G Stirling, Ministry of Supply
 1956 Aug: H G Croly, Ministry of Defence
 1956 Aug - Oct: P G Wykeham, Ministry of Defence
 1956 Nov: B St J Trend, Treasury

The committee was set up to keep in touch with the Egyptian government's action in respect of the Suez Canal and to formulate plans in response. It examined concerns such as UN action with regard to the canal situation; the evacuation of British subjects from Egypt and the Egyptian government's refusal to remove obstructions in the canal while foreign troops remained in Egypt. Related issues such as security of the press and military censorship in Malta and Cyprus were also considered. In October 1956 the prime minister ordered that many documents concerning the Suez crisis be destroyed. Some of the minutes of this committee appear to have been destroyed and the documents have been renumbered.

CAB 134/1216-1217

Egypt: Defence Negotiations (GEN 455)

20 Jan 1954 - 8 Feb 1954

Meetings: 2

Papers: 2

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1954 Jan - Feb: Lord Simonds, lord chancellor

The committee was concerned with reducing British troops in Egypt to 10,000, the number allowed under the 1936 Treaty. The troops would be expected to ensure the liberty and security of navigation of the Suez Canal, but it was not clear whether their security could be maintained in the light of Egyptian hostility.

See also Defence Negotiations with Egypt.

CAB 130/100

Egypt (Official) Committee (EOC)

24 Aug 1956 - 2 Nov 1956

Meetings: 9

Papers: 12

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1956 Aug - Nov: N Brook, Cabinet Office

Secretary: 1956 Aug - Nov: W R Darracott, Admiralty

The committee was set up after the British government had authorized military action against the Egyptian government to secure the international administration and control of the Suez Canal. It determined the broad principles which would govern Britain's handling of the

situation and provided guidance for the War Office committee which was already preparing detailed plans for this purpose.

CAB 134/1225

European Economic Co-operation Committee (ER(L))

9 June 1948 - 30 Nov 1951

Meetings: 236

Papers: 976

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1948 June - 1949 Sept: T L Rowan, Treasury

1948 Sept - 1949 Apr: R Makins, Foreign Office

1949 Mar - Oct: E A Berthoud, Foreign Office

1949 Apr - 1950 Aug: R W R Clarke, Treasury

1949 Aug: P H Gore-Booth, Foreign Office

1949 Oct - 1951 Apr: E A Hitchman, Treasury

1950 Feb: G M Wilson, Treasury

1950 Aug - Sept: E W Playfair, Treasury

1950 Oct - 1951 Nov: K Anderson, Treasury

1951 Sept - Nov: E G Compton, Treasury

Secretaries: 1948 June - 1949 Mar: T A G Charlton, War Office

1949 Mar - 1950 Dec: M M Du Merton, Foreign Office

1950 Mar - July: R B Marshall, Ministry of Works

1950 June - July: E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office

1950 June: Miss E J Beaven, Board of Trade

1950 July - Nov: R S Buer, Ministry of Food

1950 July - 1951 Oct: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

1951 Jan - Feb: P G Oates, Ministry of Transport

1951 Nov: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

This was primarily a policy committee composed of representatives from each government department. It prepared annual programmes as well as a long term programme setting out the UK contribution to the European Economic Recovery Programme (funded by the European Co-operation Administration (ECA)). Much of the committee's work was delegated to sub-committees which worked out full details and made recommendations. The Commonwealth and the colonies were vital to the recovery programme. For example, Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland were important as dollar earners and suppliers of strategic raw materials, and Portugal's wish to take over control of the port of Beira, their main outlet, was considered. The committee looked at private US investment in the colonies, for instance in bauxite in Jamaica, and at financing of new projects which would contribute to the programme. It also examined ECA 'Dollar Aid' and Overseas Development Pool assistance; the latter supported, for instance, the rehabilitation of the Sierra Leone Railway. The committee was abolished in 1951 and its work was taken over by the Mutual Aid Committee (qv).

See also European Economic Co-operation (London Committee); T 232; and Section 9.2.2 entry for Organization for European Economic Co-operation.

CAB 134/232-254

European Economic Co-operation Committee: Strategic Materials and Stockpiling Sub-Committee (ER(Stock))

9 Aug 1948 - 23 Oct 1950

Meetings: 26

Papers: 154

Subjects: international bodies and conferences; raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1948 Aug - 1950 Jan: G M Wilson, Cabinet Office

1949 Feb: J G Ousen, Treasury

Secretaries: 1948 Aug - 1949 Apr: J A E Smart, Board of Trade

1949 Apr: Miss I M Parker, Treasury

1949 June - 1950 Jan: S W T Mitchelmore, Board of Trade

1950 June - Oct: D W Savage, Board of Trade

1950 Sept - Oct: R S Buer, Ministry of Food

After the depletion of American stocks during the war it was felt in Washington and London that the stockpiling of strategic materials for the USA was necessary. A bilateral agreement was concluded under which the UK was to facilitate the transfer of materials originating in the UK and the dependent territories by way of sale, barter, etc, in quantities agreed upon after consideration of UK domestic and commercial export requirements. The Americans were most concerned about tin and rubber from Malaya but also about other commodities including kyanite from Kenya, manganese from the Gold Coast, chromite from Southern Rhodesia and bauxite from Jamaica. Their increased production was considered vital, and numerous projects were set up to facilitate it. The need for improved transportation of commodities was investigated, particularly in the African colonies.

CAB 134/255-257

European Economic Co-operation Committee: Sub-Committee on Technical Assistance ((TA)L)

6 Feb 1950 - 27 Nov 1951

Meetings: 35

Papers: 253

Subjects: international bodies and conferences; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1950 Feb - 1951 Oct: A S Pankhurst, Treasury

1951 Nov: W V Wood, Treasury

Secretaries: 1950 Feb-Sept: Mrs D R Williams, Treasury

1950 Feb - Nov: Miss J Frost, Board of Trade

1950 Aug - 1951 Nov: A A Pritchard, Board of Trade

1951 Jan - Oct: Miss E M King, Board of Trade

1951 Oct - Nov: S G Innes, Treasury

The sub-committee dealt with all matters relating to projects financed out of the ECA technical assistance programme, including those in the colonies. It also co-ordinated proposals put forward to the OEEC. It examined such projects as sugar cane ecology of Mauritius, an East and Central African railway link, cocoa in West Africa, pineapples in Jamaica and rice breeding in British Guiana. A check-list of colonial technical assistance projects and a note on the future policy for ECA technical assistance to the colonies were compiled. The committee also handled the overall administration and organization of technical assistance programmes. In addition it was responsible for preparing briefs for the UK delegates to the OEEC Working Party on Co-operation in matters of Scientific and Technical Information and for co-ordinating policy on European schemes of a related nature.

CAB 134/706-709

European Economic Co-operation Committee: Weekly Record of Departmental Discussions with Members of the ECA Mission to the United Kingdom (ER (Mission))

[1948-1951]

Papers: 70

Subjects: international bodies and conferences; raw materials/industrial products

These memoranda were circulated to the European Economic Co-operation Committee (qv), the UK delegation in Paris and all departmental representatives likely to be consulted by members of the mission. They discussed US strategic mineral requirements, for instance the prospects for manganese production in the Gold Coast, as well as the possibilities of general increased production of raw materials. The use of US technicians, such as geologists, in the colonies and the need for an overall survey of African transportation problems were also considered.

CAB 133/58-60

European Economic Co-operation (London Committee) (GEN 188)

8 July 1947 - 2 June 1948

Meetings: 80

Papers: 236

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1947 July - 1948 May: R W B Clarke, Treasury

1947 Sept - 1948 Apr: R M Makins, Foreign Office

1947 Sept - Dec: Sir E Hall-Patch, Foreign Office

1948 May: T L Rowan, Treasury

1948 June: E Berthoud, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1947 July - 1948 Jan: F E Figgures, Treasury

1947 Oct - Nov: E C R Kahn, Treasury

1948 Feb: A M Allen, Treasury

Initially set up as the European Reconstruction (London Committee), it became the European Economic Co-operation (London Committee) in July 1947. It prepared policy and material for

the Paris Conference on European Reconstruction the following month. As the conference was to formulate the basis for the four year European Recovery Programme (ERP), the committee evaluated the UK's likely contribution to Europe's total productivity and/or what Britain would acquire from Europe. In this context it examined details of the availability and requirements of raw materials, coal, food, fertilizers, transport, currency, timber, textiles, etc, taking colonial resources into account. After the conference the committee was mainly concerned with implementing the conclusions. It discussed the form and functions of the OEEC, which was intended to ensure the success of the ERP and to help the participating countries become independent of outside economic assistance, such as Marshall Aid, as soon as possible. The advantages and disadvantages of a customs union for Western Europe were also examined.

See also European Economic Co-operation Committee; and T 232.

CAB 130/21-26

European Economic Co-operation (London Committee): Sub-Committee on Programmes (GEN 212)

13 Jan 1948 - 22 Apr 1948

Meetings: 8

Papers: 30

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1948 Jan: R W B Clarke, Treasury

1948 Jan - Mar: H T Weeks, Central Economic Planning Staff

1948 Apr: E Roll, Central Economic Planning Staff

Secretaries: 1948 Jan - Apr: T A G Charlton, War Office

1948 Jan - Apr: G H Van Loo, Treasury

1948 Jan: Miss B Forbes-Adam, Board of Trade

1948 Jan: Miss J Turner, Treasury

The committee worked in consultation with the Exchange Requirements Committee, the Exports Committee, the Investment Programmes Committee and the Overseas Negotiations Committee (qv) to develop a statement of UK requirements under the Economic Recovery Programme (see Section 9.2.2). It examined the programme's effect on the general economic future of the UK including home investment and exports, considered the export commitments Britain should be prepared to make to other participants and prepared an estimate of UK balance of payments under the programme between 1 April 1948 and 30 March 1949. Its investigations included a review of import programmes showing imports from individual territories, such as oil seeds and nuts from Malaya and West Africa and colonial requirements under the ERP.

CAB 130/31

European Recovery Programme (British Washington Committee) ((BWC)(48))

26 Apr 1948 - 19 Nov 1949

Meetings: 46

Papers: 101

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1948 Apr - Dec: F G Lee, Colonial Office

1948 June - Oct: G R Oake, British Supply Office

1949 Jan - Nov: S Caine, United Kingdom Treasury and Supply Delegation

1949 May: A Christelow, United Kingdom Treasury and Supply Delegation

Secretaries: 1948 Apr - June: F E Figgures, Treasury

1948 Apr - 1949 Mar: Miss A E Hunt, United Kingdom Treasury and Supply Delegation

1949 June-Oct: T M Crowley, United Kingdom Treasury and Supply Delegation

1948 Nov - 1949 Nov: J Travalwyn, United Kingdom Treasury and Supply Delegation

1949 June: Miss M O'Donnel, Ministry of Supply

The committee was concerned with the organization in Washington for handling policy, programming and intelligence matters in connection with the ERP; it also considered ECA matters. It was not much concerned with the dependent territories, except that it examined ECA financed technical assistance which included various colonial projects, for instance the supply of geologists to the colonies. Tables are provided showing market surveys, such as those prepared by three US agricultural experts who visited East, West and Central Africa.

CAB 133/73-76

Evacuation of Maltese from Egypt in Emergency (GEN 452)

8 Jan 1954

Meetings: 1

Subjects: migration

Chairman: 1954 Jan: N Brook, Cabinet Office

This working party was concerned with the movement and reception of 3,000 evacuees (mainly Maltese but roughly thirty per cent other British subjects) from Egypt to Britain. It agreed to set up a working party under Treasury chairmanship, including representatives from the Ministry of Labour, the National Assistance Board, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Works, to prepare an outline plan for the reception and care of the evacuees.

CAB 130/99

Evacuation of Refugees from the Middle East (MISC 31)

27 July 1942

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Middle East; migration

Chairman: 1942 July: C R Attlee, secretary of state for dominions affairs

Secretary: 1942 July: A W G Randall, Foreign Office

The committee discussed the settlement of Polish and Greek refugees. Some of the Polish refugees were to be settled in East Africa and the committee agreed to limit this number in order to avoid food shortages.

CAB 78/4

Exchange Requirements Committee (BP(ERC))

8 Oct 1947 - 20 Apr 1948

Meetings: 58

Papers: 118

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 Oct - 1948 Apr: R W B Clarke, Treasury

1947 Nov: E Rowe-Dutton, Treasury

1947 Nov - 1948 Apr: M T Flett, Treasury

Secretaries: 1947 Oct - 1948 Jan: G N Van Loo, Treasury

1948 Jan: Miss B Forbes-Adam, Board of Trade

1948 Jan - Apr: Miss J Turner, Treasury

1948 Jan - Apr: H A C Gill, Treasury

Originally established under the Treasury, which circulated the papers for its first twenty-three meetings, the committee scrutinized requirements for imports and other overseas expenditure and regularly prepared tables showing the prospective balance of payments position. It also ensured that overseas expenditure did not exceed the amounts provided in the balance of payments programme approved by the ministers. Its discussions made some reference to colonial markets, import programmes, supply, foodstuffs and raw materials. Two of its meetings were particularly relevant: the 27th, which examined the purchase of food for third world countries, and the 37th, which examined sugar. Under the reorganization of the machinery for handling interdepartmental business arising from the ERP, the functions of the Exchange Requirements Committee were taken over by the Programmes Committee (qv).

See also Balance of Payments: Overseas Negotiations Committee; Committee on Exports; MAF 83/69 for papers of the committee from 1939 to 1942; MAF 83/845 for papers from 1941 to 1945; T 196 and Section 6.2.3; PREM 8/769; and CO 537 for papers 1948.

CAB 134/45, 134/258-261

Exchange Requirements Committee: Sub-Committee on Raw Materials (ERC (RM))

3 Mar 1948 - 2 June 1948

Meetings: 4

Papers: 7

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairman: 1948 Mar - June: M T Flett, Treasury

Secretary: 1948 Mar - June: Miss J Turner, Treasury

The sub-committee scrutinized and approved annual programmes involving expenditure of public funds on raw materials imported on public account. In some cases it also examined import programmes on private account where the chairman of the Import Licensing Committee agreed that the sub-committee was the appropriate body to do so. The examinations covered imports of colonial raw materials. The sub-committee's functions were taken over by the Sub-Committee on Raw Materials of the Programmes Committee (qv).

See also Raw Materials Committee.

CAB 134/262

Exchange Requirements Committee: Working Party on Purchases of Rice and Working Party on Services Oil Requirements (GEN 199)

29 Oct 1947 - 1 Dec 1947

Meetings: 2

Subjects: foodstuffs

Chairman: 1947 Oct - Dec: M T Flett, Treasury

Secretary: 1947 Dec: Miss J Turner, Treasury

The committee dealt with the purchase of rice and with the military services' oil requirements. While many of its considerations had little relevance to the dependent territories, a number were significant, particularly the procurement of rice from the Philippines and Brazil and the purchase of wheat from the USA in exchange for Egyptian rice for the colonies. There was considerable emphasis on obtaining enough rice for the eastern territories, particularly Malaya. The committee's investigations of oil stocks included figures of stocks in Singapore, Aden, the Middle East generally and the Far East.

CAB 130/27

External Affairs (GEN 567)

23 Jan 1957

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1957 Jan: H Macmillan, prime minister

The committee discussed the need for a study of Britain's military requirements in Cyprus which should be taken into account when considering constitutional development there.

CAB 130/122

Far Eastern Committee (FE)

5 Nov 1940 - 13 July 1945

Meetings: 59

Papers: 385

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1940 Oct - 1941 July: R A Butler, Foreign Office

1941 May - June: F Leith-Ross, Ministry of Economic Warfare

1941 July - Dec: R K Law, Foreign Office

1944 Nov - 1945 May: G H Hall, parliamentary under-secretary of state Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1941 Jan - Feb: P K Debenham, no details

1941 July: R F G Jayne, no details

1941 Oct - Dec: J E Coulson, Ministry of Economic Warfare

1945 July: W W McVittie, no details

The committee was set up to keep British government policy in the Far East under review, with particular regard to co-operation with the governments of the dominions, India, Burma and the USA. It was to co-ordinate action on questions affecting Japan, facilitating resistance measures where necessary, but avoiding action likely to provoke Japan into aggression against British or Dutch territories. Before the Japanese occupation, the committee examined import and export restrictions on trade with Japan as well as Japanese enterprises in British territories, for instance manganese in Malaya and rubber in Borneo. It also discussed the question of export of war materials to China from Hong Kong; propaganda and publicity in Hong Kong, Malaya and Ceylon; the closing of North Borneo ports and policy in Borneo and Malaya.

See also BT 25/33/RG177/40/1-3; T 160/1040, 1051.

CAB 96/1-5

Far Eastern Committee: Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Propaganda in the Far East (FE(Prop)(41))

7 Feb 1941 - 11 Feb 1941

Meetings: 2

Papers: 2

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; information services/communications

Chairman: 1941 Feb: M E Denning, Foreign Office

The committee examined British efforts to counter Japanese propaganda in the Far East; the existing propaganda arrangements and their extension; and the prospects of collaboration with the Netherlands, Chinese and US governments. The Japanese appeared to believe that the British empire was falling apart and the committee advocated a continuous stream of propaganda harping on the disastrous consequences to the Japanese if they continued to advance southward. Such propaganda was to be co-ordinated in the dominions, India, Burma and the colonies, and to include an outline of the strength, resources and unity of purpose of the empire.

CAB 96/10

Far Eastern Committee: Sub-Committee on Economic Matters (FE(E))

11 Oct 1940 - 10 May 1945

Meetings: 21

Papers: 68

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1940 Oct: R A Butler, Foreign Office

1940 Oct - 1941 July: F Leith-Ross, Ministry of Economic Warfare

1941 Aug: S D Waley, Treasury

1945 Jan: E L Hall-Patch, Foreign Office

1945 Feb: R C G Somervell, Board of Trade

1945 Mar: C V Peat, joint parliamentary secretary, Ministry of Supply

Secretaries: 1941 Mar: P K Debenham, no details

1945 Jan - May: E A Armstrong, Scottish Home Department

1945 Feb: E H T Wiltshire, Assistance Board

The committee considered economic issues concerning the Far East and the economic measures to be taken against Japan such as import restrictions on war materials, for instance manganese, tin, iron ore and rubber from Malaya and graphite from Ceylon. It also examined the economic interests of Malaya, British Borneo and Hong Kong in Siam and China. After the Japanese occupation the committee was concerned with the restoration of rice production and rice supplies for the occupied territories as well as the position of Hong Kong.

CAB 96/7-8**Far Eastern Committee: Working Party to Consider Terms for a Friendly Siamese Government (GEN 68)**

12 May 1945 - 7 Sept 1945

Meetings: 7

Papers: 4

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1945 May - Sept: J C Sterndale Bennett, Foreign Office

The working party was concerned with arrangements for a friendly relationship with the Siamese Liberation Government. This was considered important for two reasons. Firstly, because of its geographical position, Siam was important to the defence of colonies in the region, especially Malaya. Secondly, and most importantly, Siam could alleviate the threat of famine in the South-East Asia and Far East areas by providing sufficient rice, re-establishing import and export trade with Far Eastern colonies and adopting a neighbourly policy in regard to coastal shipping. The committee discussed the policy of asking Siam to donate one and a half million tons of rice in exchange for arms for the eradication of Japanese forces. Paying for the rice was ruled out because prices were so high that Siam would profit unreasonably in comparison to other liberated countries that had not collaborated with the enemy.

CAB 78/33

Far Eastern (Ministerial) Committee (FE(M))

7 Aug 1945 - 11 Dec 1945

Meetings: 4

Papers: 17

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1945 Aug - Dec: E Bevin, secretary of state for foreign affairs

Secretary: 1945 Aug - Sept: G Laithwaite, India Office

The committee examined future constitutional machinery for Japan as well as policy regarding the procurement of Siamese rice to supply liberated territories. This involved an examination of the rice situation in South-East Asia. Discussion on establishing friendly relations with Siam also involved consideration of Siam's role in the defence of South-East Asia.

CAB 96/9

Far Eastern (Official) Committee (FE(O))

11 Aug 1945 - 8 Sept 1953

Meetings: 107

Papers: 541

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1945 Aug-Nov: G H Hall, secretary of state for the colonies

1945 Aug - 1946 Apr: Major General E I C Jacob, Cabinet Office

1945 Dec - 1946 May: Sir G Laithwaite, Burma Office

1946 Apr: R C G Somervell, Board of Trade

1946 July - 1950 June: M E Dening, Foreign Office

1947 Nov - 1953 May: R H Scott, Foreign Office

1950 Dec: J S H Shattock, Foreign Office

1951 Jan: C H Johnson, Foreign Office

1952 June: J D Murray, Foreign Office

1952 Sept: J G Tahourdin, Foreign Office

1952 Sept: J J Paskin, Colonial Office

1953 June - Sept: W D Allen, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1945 Dec - 1947 Jan: Mrs M D Montgomery, Treasury

1945 Aug 1947 Jan: E A Armstrong, Civil Aviation

1947 July - Oct: D J M Brenton, War Office

1949 May - 1951 Feb: M M Du Merton, Foreign Office

1950 Apr - June: R B Marshall, Ministry of Works

1950 Aug - 1951 Dec: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

1951 Mar - July: A Savage, Agriculture

1951 Nov: R L Reagley, Ministry of Transport

1952 Apr - Oct: N J P Hutchison, Home Office

1952 Nov: K H Cadbury, Post Office

1953 Feb - June: D Somerville, Ministry of Health

1953 Sept: R G Lethwaite, Colonial Office

The committee prepared material for consideration by the Far Eastern (Ministerial) Committee and dealt with matters affecting the Far East. At its earlier meetings it was concerned with the Japanese surrender, economic and political considerations in post-war Japan and British policy towards Siam. Later it became increasingly concerned with the influence of communist China. It considered various matters which affected the colonial territories, including the availability of rice supplies; the strategic implications of applied economic sanctions against China; the Siam-Burma and Siam-Malaya railways; the future of Hong Kong and the economic development of Ceylon, Pakistan and British Borneo. From 1952 it was preoccupied with the rice situation in Asia. It examined the need to find alternative supplies for British territories in South-East Asia, Hong Kong and Ceylon in case the major suppliers, Siam and Burma, should fall to the communists. It reviewed plans for increased rice production in British territories in Asia, Africa and the West Indies. The committee also looked at the possible political effects of a deteriorated situation in Indo-China on commonwealth countries and South-East Asian defence. It was disbanded on 13 May 1954.

CAB 134/277-291, 897-898

Far Eastern (Official) Committee: Far East Civil Planning Unit (GEN 77)

11 Aug 1945

Meetings: 1

Papers: 106

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1945 Aug: G Sansom, Foreign Office

The unit was set up to examine British objectives and policies in taking part in the military, political and economic control of Japan. It also reviewed the foreign policies toward Japan of the USA, India, France, China, the Soviet Union, Siam, Canada and Portugal, and it considered the future of Korea, Hong Kong, Tibet, Malaya and British Borneo. It looked at the establishment and terms of reference of the Far East Commission and the Allied Military Committee in Tokyo.

CAB 130/4-5

Far Eastern (Official) Committee: Rice Sub-Committee (RS)

24 Aug 1951 - 3 May 1954

Meetings: 34

Papers: 86

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1951 Aug - 1954 May: W M Clyde, Foreign Office

1951 Oct - 1952 May: J D Murray, Foreign Office

1952 Apr: F Kennedy, Colonial Office

Secretaries: 1951 Aug: P H R Marshall, Foreign Office

1951 Aug - Sept: T B Baillie-Grohman, no details

1953 Feb - May: P G A Wakefield, no details

1953 Oct - 1954 Aug: R E L Johnstone, Ministry of Supply

1954 Apr - May: G T C Campbell, no details

This committee was concerned with increasing rice production in British territories in South-East Asia. It considered the rice shortage, particularly difficulties with production in Ceylon, and examined rice growing schemes being undertaken in colonial territories in Africa and British Guiana. The sub-committee's work was taken over by the Rice (Official) Committee (qv).

See also MAF 83/2542, 2550.

CAB 134/1157-1159

Far Eastern (Official) Committee: Working Party on Economic Sanctions Against China (FE(O)(WP))

20 Jan 1951 - 2 Feb 1951

Meetings: 2

Papers: 7

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1951 Jan - Feb: A E Berthoud, Foreign Office

Secretary: 1951 Jan - Feb: W S Laver, Foreign Office

The working party analysed the Chinese seaborne trade and retaliatory economic measures against China. It discussed the political and economic implications of a trade embargo and its effects on Hong Kong and Malaya as well as the possible repercussions in South-East Asia as a whole.

CAB 134/292

Financial Position of Iraq (GEN 574)

15 Feb 1957 - 18 Feb 1957

Meetings: 2

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1957 Feb: H Macmillan, prime minister

The committee reviewed the position regarding the Iraq government's request for a loan from the Iraqi Petroleum Company to cover expected budget deficits as a result of loss of oil revenue due to the interruption of Syrian pipelines.

CAB 130/122

Financing of Colonial Defence (GEN 264)

10 Dec 1948

Meetings: 1

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1948 Dec: C R Attlee, prime minister
 Secretary: 1948 Dec: S E V Luke, Colonial Office

The committee discussed the possibility of individual colonies bearing the full cost of their own internal security forces and the contribution each colony could be expected to make towards commonwealth defence. It also looked at the nature of the forces suitable for maintaining internal security in colonial territories.

CAB 130/44

Food Policy Committee (FP(M))

29 Nov 1939 - 15 Jan 1942

Meetings: 72

Papers: 351

Subjects: foodstuffs

Chairmen: 1939 Nov - 1940 Apr: S Hoare, lord privy seal

1940 Apr: K Wood, lord privy seal

1940 May: A Greenwood, minister without portfolio

1940 May - 1942 Jan: C R Attlee, lord privy seal

Secretaries: 1939 Nov - Dec: A Bevir, Treasury

1939 Dec - 1940 May: W Goodchild, Ministry of Food

1940 June - 1941 Feb: J P R Maud, Ministry of Food

1941 Mar - 1942 Jan: F W Lascelles, Statute Law Committee

Originally constituted as a ministerial sub-committee on food policy, the committee was reconstituted as an independent committee of the War Cabinet in April 1940. It was concerned with domestic food and did not directly consider the dependent territories other than the possible manufacture of food yeast in the West Indies. However, many of the food imports discussed were of unstated colonial origin, for instance oil seeds and sugar. It reviewed weekly reports showing the amounts of various foods imported.

CAB 74/1-7

Food Supplies (WFS)

4 Feb 1946 - 12 June 1946

Meetings: 14

Papers: 131

Subjects: foodstuffs

Chairman: 1946 Feb - July: C R Attlee, prime minister

Secretaries: 1946 Feb - July: C G Armstrong, Colonial Office

1946 Mar - July: E A Armstrong, Civil Aviation Department

1946 Feb - July: R Morrison, no details

The committee kept the changing pattern of world food shortages under review, concerted and directed the executive action required of UK departments and focused major issues which

called for decision by the Cabinet or by international bodies. It considered subjects such as rice production in the territories, the position in the territories in relation to the world wheat shortage and the export of colonial foodstuffs. Considerable reference was made to UNRRA and to a lesser degree the FAO.

CAB 134/729-731

Foreign Policy (FP(36))

30 Apr 1936 - 25 Aug 1939

Meetings: 61

Papers: 104

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairmen: 1936 Apr - 1937 May: S Baldwin, prime minister

1936 Aug: J R MacDonald, lord president of the Council

1937 June - 1939 Aug: N Chamberlain, prime minister

1938 Feb: J Simon, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretaries: 1936 Apr - 1938 Apr: M P A Hankey, Privy Council Office and Committee of Imperial Defence

1936 Apr: H R Pownall, War Office

1939 Apr - Aug: W D Wilkinson, Treasury

The committee considered the future of the League of Nations and British policy in eastern Europe and paid particular attention to the question of transferring colonial mandates to Germany. Germany had demanded the return of its former colonies and the British were concerned to hold on to Tanganyika. The possible surrender of the Gambia to France was discussed, as were Anglo-Italian borders involving Kenya and the Sudan.

CAB 27/622-627

Functions of the Minister of State in the Middle East (MISC 25)

21 Mar 1942 - 25 Mar 1942

Meetings: 2

Papers: 3

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1942 Mar: A Barlow, Treasury

1942 Mar: F Bovenschen, War Office

The committee examined the functions of the minister of state in the Middle East following the addition of Aden, the Aden Protectorate, Yemen and Persia to his sphere. The functions of the Middle East Supply Centre, which included British Somaliland and East Africa, were also considered.

CAB 78/3

Chairmen: 1925 Jan - 1928 Feb: Viscount Cave, lord chancellor
1926 July - 1928 Nov: W Joynson-Hicks, secretary of state for home affairs
1927 Mar - Feb: P Cunliffe-Lister, Board of Trade
1928 Apr - 1938 Feb: Lord Hailsham, lord chancellor
1929 July - 1935 June: Lord Sankey, lord chancellor

Chairman: 1950 July - 1951 Jan: J Chuter Ede, Home Department

The committee was concerned with the increase of immigrants from the dependent territories to Britain since 1945, which contributed to unemployment. It considered the laws governing the entry of aliens, the measures that could be adopted to control this trend and the policy issues involved. Most of the immigrants came from West Africa, the West Indies, Somaliland, Aden and the Mediterranean colonies.

CAB 130/61

Imperial Communications Committee (ICC)

5 Oct 1939 - 24 May 1946

Meetings: 42

Papers: 368

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairmen: 1939 Oct - 1940 Apr: Earl de la Warr, president of the Board of Education

1940 Apr - May: F W Philipps, General Post Office

1940 June - Dec: Lord Lloyd, secretary of state for the colonies

1941 Feb: J Innes, General Post Office

1941 Apr - Dec: Lord Moyne, secretary of state for the colonies

1942 Mar - Nov: Viscount Cranborne, secretary of state for the colonies

1942 Aug: W S Morrison, postmaster general

1943 Feb - Apr: O Stanley, secretary of state for the colonies

1943 July - 1945 May: H F C Crookshank, postmaster general

1946 Jan: Sir R Birchall, General Post Office

Secretaries: 1939 Oct - 1940 Jan: A Bevir, Colonial Office

1941 Feb - 1944 July: W W Shaw-Zambra, Imperial Communications Advisory Committee

1941 Dec - 1942 Nov: H Everett, no details

1942 Nov - 1944 Mar: A J D Winniffrith, Treasury

1944 Sept - 1946 Jan: S D Sargent, Post Office

1945 Feb - 1946 Jan: C W G Walker, Ministry of Information

The committee was concerned with improving wireless and telegraph communications in the empire. Its considerations included the laying of cables, linking the UK to Gibraltar and the Gambia; improvement of cable and wireless facilities in American leased bases in the West Indies; direct wireless circuits between the USA and Bermuda, British Guiana and the Gold Coast; proposals for wireless stations in Malaya and Singapore; and the restoration of British cable and wireless facilities that had fallen into enemy hands.

CAB 76/1-5

Imperial Communications Committee: Technical Sub-Committee (ICC(T))

31 Mar 1942 - 20 Feb 1946

Meetings: 14

Papers: 49

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1942 Mar - 1946 Feb: S Angwin, General Post Office

Secretaries: 1942 Mar - July: H Everett, no details

1942 Mar - 1944 July: W W Shaw-Zambra, Imperial Communications Advisory Committee

1942 Dec - 1943 Feb: A J D Winniffrith, Treasury

1946 Feb: T A Davies, Post Office

The committee examined a general analysis of wireless and cable facilities available from the UK including technical information on facilities in the African colonies, Bermuda, Gibraltar, Aden and Ceylon. It also considered the siting of wireless stations in Malaya and Hong Kong.

CAB 76/6

Import Executive (IE)

3 Jan 1941 - 2 Mar 1942

Meetings: 35

Papers: 170

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1941 Jan - 1942 Mar: A Duncan, minister of supply

1941 July: Lord Leathers, minister of war transport

The committee was broadly concerned with UK imports and related subjects such as shipping. Many of its considerations were directly or indirectly related to the colonies. For instance, it discussed the effect the loss of West African trade would have on imports, such as tin from Nigeria, manganese and cocoa from the Gold Coast and iron ore from Sierra Leone, and it looked at alternative sources. It examined proposals to obtain imports from nearby sources of supply which would mean curtailment of exports for some colonies, for instance sugar from Fiji.

CAB 92/70-71

Imports Diversion Committee (ID)

27 July 1948 - 1 Nov 1950

Meetings: 12

Papers: 50

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1948 July - 1949 Oct: E A Hitchman, Treasury

1949 Nov - 1950 Jan: W Strath, Treasury

Secretaries: 1948 July - 1949 Jan: A R Ogilvy-Webb, Treasury

1949 Jan - 1950 Jan: D Pointon, Ministry of Labour

1949 Jan - Nov: Miss E J Beaven, Board of Trade

The committee operated in close association with the Programmes Committee (qv) to direct imports from hard to soft currency sources. It took account of the work of the Panel on Import Substitutions of the Committee on Industrial Productivity (qv); the working parties dealing with colonial development, sterling area development and the dollar element in oil; and the Committee on Agricultural Output. Planning for the diversion of imports to OEEC countries fell within its scope, and it kept in close touch with other bodies responsible for implementing other aspects of the four year plan: the Ministry of Transport, the Special Sub-Committee of the Exports Committee and the Treasury. It carried out a detailed analysis of colonial trade and examined the need to increase production of dollar saving and dollar earning commodities in colonies and the sterling area.

CAB 134/349-351

Imports Diversion Committee: Working Group on Cotton (ID(WGC))

5 Apr 1949 - 28 Sept 1949

Meetings: 6

Papers: 11

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1949 Apr - Sept: J R McK Willis, Central Economic Planning Staff

1949 Sept: J L Croome, Central Economic Planning Staff

Secretaries: 1949 Apr- Sept: D Pointon, Ministry of Labour

1949 Sept: C M Drukker, Treasury

The working group was set up to examine the possibility of securing greater supplies of cotton from non-dollar sources. Focusing on the increase of production in the colonies, it examined the five main potentially important producers (the Sudan, Nigeria, Uganda, Tanganyika and Nyasaland) and the difficulties encountered in terms of disease, methods of cultivation, problems of mechanical picking, administration and research. It also reported on the role of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation and evaluated production in other cotton growing colonies (Fiji, Seychelles, British Honduras, Gold Coast, Rhodesia and Kenya).

CAB 134/352

India and Burma Committee (IB)

See under the Colonial Affairs Committee for a reference to constitutional development in Ceylon.

See also CAB 21/1739.

CAB 134/341-346

Information Services (GEN 472)

5 May 1954

Meetings: 1

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1954 July: Viscount Swinton, secretary of state for commonwealth relations
 Secretary: 1954 July: F A Bishop, Ministry of Food

The committee met only once to discuss the line the government spokesman should take in the debate to be held the following day on an opposition motion criticizing the government for its lack of decision on policy for the overseas information services. The principal concerns were financial.

See also Committee on the Drogheda Report on the Overseas Information Services.

CAB 130/102

Interdepartmental Committee for the Imperial Economic Conference: Committee on Economic Consultation and Co-operation 1933 (ECC(33))

3 Feb 1933 - 10 Feb 1933

Meetings: 4

Papers: 31

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1933 Feb: H Wilson, chief industrial adviser to HM government
 Secretaries: 1933 Feb: F Hemming, joint secretary, Economic Advisory Council
 1933 Feb: P Liesching, Dominions Office

The committee carried out detailed investigations in preparation for the Committee on Economic Consultation and Co-operation. It reviewed the functions of various institutions, committees and organizations including the Empire Marketing Board (see Volume I, Chapter 10), the Empire Timbers Committee and the Imperial Advisory Committee. Particular attention was given to the functions of the Imperial Institute (see Volume I, Chapter 10) and to its investigations, such as those on oil seeds from West Africa, essential oils in Tanganyika and Kenya and pineapple canning in British Guiana.

CAB 27/547

Interdepartmental Committee on Civil Aviation (AC)

25 July 1941 - 2 Jan 1942

Meetings: 16

Papers: 44

Subjects: transportation

Chairmen: 1941 July - 1942 Jan: F Shelmerdine, Air Ministry
 1941 Nov: J A P Edgcumbe, Board of Trade and Department of Overseas Trade
 Secretary: 1941 July - 1942 Jan: H Jones, Air Ministry

The committee was set up to survey the whole field of aviation in its international, imperial and national aspects and to make recommendations for its reconstruction, organization and development after the war. Its members felt that whereas pre-war civil air transportation had

been based on international competition, after the war it should be based on co-operation. It proposed a network of trunk routes and feeder lines under a world authority.

CAB 87/85

Interdepartmental Committee on Economic Policy (EP(39)-(40))

4 Oct 1939 - 10 May 1940

Meetings: 18

Papers: 55

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1939 Oct - 1940 May: H J Wilson, secretary to the Treasury

1939 Oct - Dec: Lord Stamp, advisor on economic co-ordination

Secretary: 1939 Oct - Nov: T Padmore, Treasury

The committee was set up to review and co-ordinate Britain's economic effort and to make arrangements for Anglo-French economic co-operation where necessary. It was also responsible for co-ordinating the various interdepartmental committees handling economic affairs and for proposing further interdepartmental contacts if needed. It was particularly concerned with the control of imports and raw materials. The British government now dealt directly with empire producers to purchase copper, lead and zinc instead of through agents and dealers, and it was hoped that agents handling other commodities would switch from excluded foreign products to empire products.

CAB 72/6-7

Interdepartmental Committee on Oversea Development and Migration (ODM(29))

13 June 1929 - 1 Aug 1929

Meetings: 5

Papers: 20

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairman: 1929 June - Aug: J H Thomas, lord privy seal

Secretary: 1929 June - Aug: H D Hancock, Ministry of Labour

The committee considered colonial development separately from development and migration in the dominions. Long term and short term development projects in the colonial empire were examined, and the possibility that such schemes might relieve UK unemployment was taken into account. Particular attention was given to railway development in East and West Africa and Iraq. Other projects discussed included irrigation works in Mauritius, crop development (sugar and citrus) and a hydroelectric plant in Ceylon.

CAB 27/382

Interdepartmental Committee on Resettlement in Employment of Members of the Forces (GEN 167)

10 Feb 1947 - 15 Dec 1947

Meetings: 8

Papers: 37

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1947 Feb - Dec: H H Wiles, Ministry of Labour and National Service

Secretary: 1947 Feb - Dec: C H A Taylor, Ministry of Defence

The committee was mainly concerned with employment for ex-servicemen of all ranks, and the Colonial Service was one of the possibilities considered. The committee examined the post-war emphasis on guiding the colonies toward self-government and the role of the Colonial Service in this task. It also looked at the limited possibilities for employment within the colonies.

CAB 130/17

Inter-service Personnel Movement Co-ordinating Committee

See Chiefs of Staff Committee: Inter-service Personnel Movement Co-ordinating Committee.

Iraq Oil Committee (IOC(30))

27 May 1930 - 4 Feb 1931

Meetings: 4

Papers: 58

Subjects: Middle East; oil

Chairman: 1930 May - 1931 Feb: A Henderson, secretary of state for foreign affairs

The committee considered a memorandum from the secretary of state for the colonies drawing attention to Iraq's strong opposition to the Syrian alignment for the oil pipeline and unwillingness to co-operate in a comprehensive settlement with France. The preferred route for the proposed pipeline and railway was Baghdad-Haifa. The committee examined proposals for this route, as well as the significance of Iraqi oil. It also discussed withdrawal of British support.

CAB 27/436

Iraq Policy Committee (IP(26))

24 Feb 1926 - 3 May 1926

Meetings: 3

Papers: 11

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1926 Feb: A Chamberlain, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1926 Mar - May: the Marquess of Salisbury, lord privy seal

Secretaries: 1926 Feb - May: H L Ismay, Committee of Imperial Defence

1926 Feb - May: T A Spring-Rice, Foreign Office

The committee advised on the instructions to be given to the British ambassador in Constantinople for his guidance in negotiating a general settlement with Turkey. It considered

securing a guarantee of the frontier position, the extension of the Baghdad Railway to Mosul, a joint extradition treaty and reassurances to the Turks regarding British policy towards the Kurds in Iraq. It also discussed a reduction of the imperial garrison as a gesture to Turkey.

CAB 27/312

Japanese Trade Competition (JTC)

27 Mar 1934 - 6 June 1934

Meetings: 3

Papers: 7

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1934 Mar - June: W Runciman, president of the Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1934 Mar - June: J H Penson, Treasury

1934 Mar - June: Miss A H M Kilroy, Board of Trade

The committee was set up to consider the economic and political consequences of a possible breakdown of negotiations between UK and Japanese cotton and rayon producers. When the negotiations did break down it considered imposing quotas on Japanese imports in the colonies.

CAB 27/568

Joint Administrative Planning Committee

See Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Administrative Planning Staff.

Joint Administrative Planning Staff

See Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Administrative Planning Staff.

Joint Planning Committee: Joint Planning Sub-Committee: Inter-Service Planning

See Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Planning Committee: Joint Planning Sub-Committee: Inter-service Planning.

Joint Planning Staff

See Chiefs of Staff Committee: Joint Planning Staff.

Jordan and Cyprus (GEN 605)

1 July 1957

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1957 July: H Macmillan, prime minister

The pro-western regime in Jordan had ended collaboration between Egypt, Syria and Jordan and was therefore thought to put a check on Nasser. The committee considered a joint scheme for economic aid to Jordan by the USA, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the UK to ensure that the regime did not collapse. It also examined future policy in Cyprus to be discussed at the forthcoming tripartite conference with the Greek and Turkish governments.

CAB 130/131

Lend-Lease and Mutual Aid in Stage II (GEN 43)

[1944]

Papers: 67

Subjects: defence

The committee considered the scope and scale of Mutual and Lend-Lease Aid Stage II between the USA and the British empire including considerations of raw materials, foodstuffs, oil and shipping. Reciprocal aid to the USA from the UK and colonies, such as essential raw materials, foodstuffs, munitions and military stores was also examined, but there was little reference to individual territories.

CAB 78/24

Lord President's Committee (LP)

11 June 1940 - 27 July 1951

Meetings: 539

Papers: 2175

Subjects: foodstuffs; migration; raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1940 June-July: N Chamberlain, lord president of the Council

1940 July - Sept: C R Attlee, lord privy seal and 1943 Sept - 1944 Dec: lord president of the Council

1940 Oct - 1944 Aug: J Anderson, lord president of the Council and 1945 Apr - July: chancellor of the Exchequer

1945 Apr: W S Churchill, prime minister

1945 Aug - Dec: H Morrison, lord president of the Council

1945 Sept - Nov: H Dalton, chancellor of the Exchequer

1946 Jan - 1951 Mar: H Morrison, lord president of the Council

1946 Jan - 1951 July: H Dalton, chancellor of the Exchequer

1947 Feb: S Cripps, Board of Trade

1949 Dec: A V Alexander, Ministry of Defence

1951 Mar - May: Viscount Addison, lord president of the Council

Secretaries: 1943 Jan - 1945 May: W L Gorell-Barnes, no details

1944 Oct - 1945 Nov: M T Flett, Treasury

1945 Feb: I Montgomery, Treasury

1945 July - Nov: J P R Maud, Ministry of Reconstruction

1945 Aug - Dec: A Johnston, Ministry of Reconstruction

1945 Nov - Dec: E M Nicholson, Ministry of Aircraft Production

1943 July - May: P Allen, Home Office
 1944 July - Aug: G G Phillips, no details
 1946: no details
 1947 Apr - July: R P Fraser, no details
 1947 Jan - 1948 Oct: W S Murrie, Ministry of Health
 1947 Jan - 1951 June: E M Nicholson, Lord President's Office
 1947 Jan - 1951 July: A Johnston, Lord President's Office
 1947 Aug: J G Stewart, Ministry of Labour
 1948 Jan: A R W Bavin, Ministry of Health
 1948 Mar - 1949 Dec: Miss J H Liddervale, Lord President's Office
 1948 Nov - 1951 Feb: J A R Pimlott, Home Office
 1951 June - July: D L E B Jones, no details

The committee was primarily concerned with internal economic policy. However, through its responsibility to co-ordinate various aspects of economic development it became involved in consideration of food, raw material supplies and stocks, many of which were of colonial origin. It considered monthly memoranda by the president of the Board of Trade on overseas trade and examined specific problems, such as competition between India and UK textiles in colonial markets, commercial treaties with Egypt and food supplies for East Africa. It examined the long term prospects of the rubber industry in Malaya and Ceylon and the prices which would make natural rubber competitive with synthetic rubber. It also looked at a proposal by the International Tin Organization to set up a tin study group in its place which would review the International Tin Agreement. In later years the committee was concerned with the plight of evacuees from Gibraltar who had been sent to camps in Northern Ireland and it proposed their repatriation to Gibraltar on transfer to London. It also looked at a memorandum on the Royal Society's Empire Scientific Conference, the British Commonwealth Scientific Official Conference and the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux Conference, all of which were held in 1946 and were attended by commonwealth and colonial delegates.

CAB 132/1-18; CAB 71/1-22

Malaya (GEN 400)

10 Jan 1952

Meetings: 1

Papers: 3

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1952 Jan: the Marquess of Salisbury, lord privy seal

Secretary: 1952 Jan: J D Higham, Colonial Office

The committee was set up to consider in detail a report on Malaya by the secretary of state for the colonies. He suggested that a high commissioner and director of operations be appointed in Malaya and that the standard of British officers seconded to the Malay Regiment be improved.

CAB 130/74

Malaya Committee (MC/MALC)

19 Apr 1950 - 26 July 1951

Meetings: 11

Papers: 35

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1950 Apr - 1951 July: E Shinwell, minister of defence

Secretary: 1950 Apr - 1951 July: V A J Heald, Ministry of Defence

The committee kept the situation in Malaya under review and reported as required to the Defence Committee. It authorized measures that it considered necessary to preserve law and order in the colony.

See also CO 537/5997-5999, 7276.

CAB 134/497**Malta Committee (Ministerial) (MC)**

8 Sept 1955 - 28 Sept 1955

Meetings: 3

Papers: 9

Subjects: constitutional development; Mediterranean

Chairman: 1955 Sept: Viscount Kilmuir, lord chancellor

Secretaries: 1955 Sept: G W Penn, Home Office

1955 Sept: S M West, Colonial Office

The committee examined background information in preparation for the proposed round table conference on Malta. For instance, it considered the strategic importance of Malta and its position in the Mediterranean region and the economic, financial, social and constitutional implications of closer association with the UK. The main proposal was for Malta's representation in parliament. The committee looked at the views of Malta's two main political parties as well as the responses of other colonial territories to the proposals for Malta.

See also Official Committee on Malta. See Malta Round Table Conference (CAB 133/143-147).

CAB 134/1295**Malta: Economic Equivalence (GEN 575)**

25 Feb 1957

Meetings: 1

Subjects: constitutional development; Mediterranean

Chairman: 1957 Feb: H Macmillan, prime minister

The meeting was held to consider difficulties regarding the financial arrangements to be made as a result of the proposals for a new constitutional relationship between the UK and Malta.

CAB 130/122

Manpower (Ministerial) Committee: Working Party (MP(O))

28 Dec 1945 - 9 Dec 1946

Meetings: 12

Papers: 51

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1945 Nov: G Ince, Ministry of Labour and National Service

1946 Jan - Apr: H C Emerson, Ministry of Labour and National Service

1946 July - Dec: H H Wiles, Ministry of Labour and National Service

Secretaries: 1946 Jan: T Wilson, Ministry of National Insurance

1946 Feb - Dec: J A Drew, HM Customs and Excise

The Manpower Working Party reviewed manpower resources during 1946 and 1947. Its only reference to colonial policy concerned strategic considerations and defence of the empire.

CAB 134/510

Materials (Allocation) Committee (M)

28 Jan 1952 - 10 Aug 1956

Meetings: 21

Papers: 152

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1952 Jan-Oct: Viscount Swinton, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

1952 May: F F Turnbull, Treasury

1952 Dec - 1953 Mar: Sir Arthur Salter, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

1954 May: G B Blaker, Treasury

1954 Aug: J A C Robertson, Treasury

1954 Nov: G B Blaker, Treasury

1955 Feb - June: D M Bensusan Butt, Treasury

1955 June - 1956 Aug: Mrs D C L Johnstone, Treasury

1956 June: Sir Edward Boyle, economic secretary to the Treasury

Secretaries: 1952 Jan - 1953 Mar: C A Larson, Treasury

1952 Jan - Oct: Miss H G Harries, Treasury

1952 Dec - 1953 Mar: W G Bristow, no details

1953 Mar: N S Forward, Ministry of Defence

1954 May - 1955 Mar: T H Caulcott, Central Land Board and War Damage Commission

The committee determined the allocation of scarce materials on behalf of the Economic Policy Committee (qv). Its primary concern was the supply of and demand for tin-plate, softwood and sulphur. While not generally concerned with the dependent territories, it did examine the

allocation of steel exports for the colonies and the Commonwealth and the necessity of supplying their demands as well as overseas demands for tin-plate.

CAB 134/1006-1008

Materials Committee (M)

20 Nov 1945 - 30 Nov 1951

Meetings: 136

Papers: 477

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1945 Nov - 1946 Dec: A Plant, Cabinet Office

1946 Aug - Dec: R D Fennelly, Board of Trade

1946 Sept - Dec: G Archer, Ministry of Supply

1946 Oct: R F Bretherton, Board of Trade

1946 Oct - 1947 May: F G Lee, Ministry of Supply

1947 Jan - Sept: H T N Gaitskell, Ministry of Fuel and Power

1947 Nov - Dec: H A Marquand, paymaster general

1947 Dec - 1950 Mar: D Jay, Treasury

1948 June: 1949 Sept: F E Budd, Central Economic Planning Staff

1949 Feb: J R McK Willis, Central Economic Planning Staff

1950 Mar - Sept: J Callaghan, Ministry of Transport

1950 Dec - 1951 Sept: J Edwards, Treasury

1951 Mar - Oct: F F Turnbull, Treasury

1951 Mar - Apr: Lord Pakenham, minister of civil aviation

1951 Nov: Rt Hon Viscount Swinton, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

Secretaries: 1945 Nov - 1946 Aug: D N Lowe, Ministry of Production

1945 Nov - 1946 Dec: R F Allen, Ministry of Production

1946 Mar-Oct: Miss H Martin, Ministry of Supply

1946 Aug - 1951 Nov: Miss M G Harris, Treasury

1947 June - 1948 Mar: R E France, Commonwealth Relations Office

1947 Jan - 1950 June: F E Budd, Treasury

1949 Feb - Mar: W Clowser, Treasury

1949 Feb: R L Morris, Ministry of Labour and National Service

1949 Mar: D J Mitchell, Treasury

1950 June - 1951 Aug: C D Smith, Treasury

1951 May - Nov: K W S MacKenzie, Treasury

Originally set up in September 1939 as the Ministry of Supply, Central Priority Department, Material Sub-Committee, it was renamed numerous times, becoming part of the Ministry of Production in April 1942, before being transferred to the Cabinet Office in April 1945. As a Cabinet committee it examined imports, exports, consumption and supplies of raw materials, including colonial raw materials such as British East African sisal and timber and lead.

See also Materials (Allocation) Committee.

CAB 134/475-486

Meeting of Commonwealth Defence Ministers: Official Committee on Preparations for the Meeting (GEN 362)

1 May 1951 - 6 June 1951

Meetings: 6

Papers: 15

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; defence

Chairmen: 1951 May - June: N Brook, Cabinet Office

1951 June: H Parker, Ministry of Defence

Secretaries: 1951 May: P T Hayman, Ministry of Defence

1951 June: V A J Heald, Ministry of Defence

During the course of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Meeting in London in January 1951 it was suggested that further discussions on the defence of the Middle East between the defence ministers of the old commonwealth and Southern Rhodesia would be useful. India, Pakistan and Ceylon were not invited, on the basis that it was a regional conference. The committee handled preparations for the meeting, which was to be held in Malta. The Middle East was seen as a land bridge between Europe, Asia and Africa, and Middle Eastern oil was increasingly vital to the UK. The meeting was therefore to discuss commonwealth contributions to the plan for Middle East defence, to which Russia was perceived as the major threat.

CAB 130/66

Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers: Working Party on Convertibility and Related Problems (FM(C)(52))

23 Jan 1952 - 9 Feb 1952

Meetings: 9

Papers: 5

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1952 Jan - Feb: A Salter, minister of state for economic affairs, United Kingdom

Secretaries: 1952 Jan - Feb: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

1952 Jan - Feb: G R Ashford, Treasury

Following the agreement of commonwealth finance ministers on the objective of convertibility for the sterling area, the working party was set up to examine the conditions necessary to achieving it. The dollar shortage continued to lie at the heart of the sterling area's difficulties. The committee discussed a paper on a sterling payments union by the delegate from Ceylon.

CAB 133/124

Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers: Working Party on Development (FM(D)(52))

29 Jan 1952 - 16 Feb 1952

Meetings: 12

Papers: 21

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1952 Jan: J G Foster, parliamentary under-secretary of state for commonwealth relations

Secretaries: 1952 Jan - Feb: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office
1952 Jan - Feb: R G Britten, Commonwealth Relations Office

Due to the balance of payments crisis in the sterling area the working party was set up to examine possibilities of increasing commonwealth countries' productive power, with the short term aim of bringing the sterling area into balance for 1952 and in the long term of building up a reserve surplus. It examined foreign investment and principal commodities requiring development in the sterling area. The expansion of the colonies' productive power was considered separately. It was found that steel shortages and the insufficient supply of capital goods were slowing down development. The colonies' loan requirements could not be met from London, so loans from the international bank were discussed. The committee also considered development projects in Ceylon.

CAB 133/124

Meeting of Commonwealth Ministers concerned with Supply and Production (CSP(51))

24 Sept 1951 - 27 Sept 1951

Meetings: 7

Papers: 27

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1951 Sept: C R Attlee, prime minister

1951 Sept: R Stokes, lord privy seal

Secretaries: 1951 Sept: O C Morland, Foreign Office

1951 Sept: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

1951 Sept: M J Moynihan, Commonwealth Relations Office

1951 Sept: M P Lam, Ministry of Materials

The committee examined the problems of production and exchange of raw materials and manufactured goods in the Commonwealth. The demand for raw materials exceeded the supply, and the Commonwealth had an increasing need for manufactured goods. The colonies were deterred from increased production of raw materials by the lack of goods. For example, Malaya was unable to produce more tin and Nigeria more zinc without adequate supplies of electrical equipment, while increased cotton production in Nigeria required improved road and rail transport. Individual raw materials were considered together with prospects for raw materials in general.

CAB 133/32

Meeting of Commonwealth Ministers concerned with Supply and Production: Preliminary Meetings of Officials (CSP(O)(5))

19 Sept 1951 - 27 Sept 1951

Meetings: 8

Papers: 2

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1951 Sept: E A Hitchman, Ministry of Materials
1951 Sept: D de Waar Meyer, South African delegate
Secretaries: 1951 Sept: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office
1951 Sept: M J Moynihan, Commonwealth Relations Office
1951 J G Stott, Ministry of Supply

Following months of marked shortages and economic dislocation, the committee met to examine supplies of raw materials, capital equipment and manufacturing goods. Representatives of the dependent territories emphasized their difficulties in obtaining capital equipment and materials from the UK. Various raw materials were also discussed, such as copper from Northern Rhodesia and zinc from Nigeria, which were in short supply.

CAB 133/33

Meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers: Official Committee on Preparations for the Meeting (GEN 338)

11 Oct 1950 - 29 Dec 1950

Meetings: 5

Papers: 20

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1950 Oct - Dec: N Brook, Cabinet Office

Secretary: 1950 Dec: E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office

The agenda for the meeting included questions about the Middle East and the defence of Africa, and the committee examined the attitude of commonwealth governments and Southern Rhodesia. It also looked at the effects of Chinese communist policy and of the Korean War on South and South-East Asia.

CAB 130/65

Meeting of Ministers and Officials on Jordan (GEN 552)

3 Oct 1956

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: A Eden, prime minister

The meeting discussed a telegram from HM ambassador at Baghdad about the terms of a letter to be addressed to the prime minister of Iraq confirming the oral assurances of assistance in the event of an Israeli attack on Jordan. Amendments to the letter included the addition of a reference to French association with the warning to Israel.

CAB 130/120

Meeting of Ministers: Four Power Talks and Trieste; Central African Federation; Ceylon (GEN 443)

22 Sept 1953

Meetings: 1

Papers: 2

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

Chairman: 1953 Sept: the Marquess of Salisbury, lord president of the Council

Secretary: 1953 Sept: Ms J C Petrie, Foreign Office

The meeting considered the form of the instructions to be sent to the UK representatives at any preliminary consultations with the French and the Americans in advance of four-power talks (UK, USA, France, USSR). The only direct references to the colonies were an assessment of the prospects of the Central African Federation and a brief mention of the retirement of the prime minister of Ceylon.

CAB 130/95

Meeting of Ministers: Indo-China; Royal Tour; Gibraltar (GEN 467)

7 May 1954

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Mediterranean

Chairman: 1954 May: W S Churchill, prime minister

The meeting considered the problems of an international settlement on Indo-China and the queen's forthcoming visit to Gibraltar.

CAB 130/102

Meeting of Ministers on Middle East Defence (GEN 476)

19 Nov 1954

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1954 Nov: W S Churchill, prime minister

Secretary: 1954 Nov: K L Stock, Ministry of Fuel and Power

The meeting was concerned, following the withdrawal of troops from Egypt, with the establishment of a Middle East joint services headquarters in Cyprus and its proposed functions.

CAB 130/104

Meeting of Ministers on the Suez Canal: Problems arising from the Diversion of Shipping (GEN 550)

17 Sept 1956

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1956 Sept: H Macmillan, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary: 1956 Sept: P R Odgers, Ministry of Education

The meeting considered the problems of shipping, oil supplies and finance which would arise from the need to divert shipping in the event of a heavy pile-up of traffic at either end of the Suez Canal.

CAB 130/120

Meeting of Ministers on the Suez Canal: Publicity Arrangements (GEN 545)

27 July 1956

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1956 July: A Eden, prime minister

Secretaries: 1956 July: A W Snelling, Commonwealth Relations Office

1956 July: P R Odgers, Ministry of Education

This meeting of commonwealth high commissioners discussed the Egyptian government's appropriation of the Suez Canal Company. It examined Egypt's right to nationalize the management of the canal and the danger of subjecting this international waterway to the control of a single nation whose action could affect other countries' trade. The aim was to reach some agreement on a widely based international control commission.

CAB 130/120

Meetings with the Director of Operations, Federation of Malaya (GEN 345)

26 Feb 1951 - 12 Mar 1951

Meetings: 3

Papers: 9

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

A series of meetings was held, some in the Prime Minister's Office, to discuss the uprising in Malaya led by the Malayan Peoples Liberation Army (MPLA). There was speculation on emergency measures and the urgent need to repatriate Chinese detainees was stressed. Proposals to 'dump' them on the shores of China were rejected by the Peking government and North Borneo was discussed as an alternative. The committee examined the action taken by local authorities to improve the situation, the assistance required from the British government

and the recruitment of staff to Malaya. It was deemed necessary to replace British troops with African and Fijian troops.

CAB 130/65

Meetings of Ministers on the Defence Programme (GEN 570)

2 Feb 1957 - 30 May 1957

Meetings: 3

Papers: 2

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1957 Feb - May: H Macmillan, prime minister

The committee was concerned with defence questions, including the transit of UK warships through the Suez Canal and the position of the armed forces in Hong Kong.

CAB 130/122

Middle East Affairs Committee (GEN 507)

5 Oct 1955 - 20 Nov 1956

Meetings: 2

Subjects: Africa; Middle East

Chairmen: 1955 Oct: A Eden, prime minister

1955 Nov: R A Butler, lord privy seal

Secretary: 1955 Nov: B St J Trend, Treasury

The committee discussed the overall defence of the Middle East, including the supply of arms to Israel and Egypt and the arms deal between the Soviet block and Egypt. Clearance of the Suez Canal was discussed in the light of the incoming United Nations emergency forces. The Sudan's future was considered because the proposal for an international assembly to supervise elections for a constitutional assembly had fallen through. A proposal to withdraw the UK delegation from UNESCO following Czechoslovakia's and Bulgaria's condemnation of UK and French aggression in the Middle East was of major concern.

CAB 130/111

Middle East Command (GEN 382)

4 Oct 1951

Meetings: 1

Papers: 2

Subjects: Africa; Middle East

Chairman: 1951 Oct: C R Attlee, prime minister

Secretary: 1951 Oct: K McLean, War Office

The committee discussed a proposal to set up an allied Middle East organization to replace the Anglo-Egyptian treaty of 1936, as it was feared that Egypt was likely to abrogate the treaty. Because of Egypt's refusal to discuss the progress of the Sudan separately from the problem of the 1936 treaty, it was also necessary to set up an international commission consisting of the UK, USA and Egypt to oversee the Sudan's progress towards self-government and work for an arrangement to control the Nile waters satisfactory to all parties. The committee's concern was whether Egypt would accept the proposal.

CAB 130/71

Middle East (Official) Committee (ME(O))

13 Dec 1945 - 17 Feb 1953

Meetings: 16

Papers: 121

Subjects: Africa; Middle East

Chairmen: 1945 - 1946 Jan: R Cornwallis, Foreign Office

1947 May: N Butler, Foreign Office

1947 Aug - 1950 Jan: M Wright, Foreign Office

1947 Dec - 1948 Dec: B A B Burrows, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1945 Dec - 1947 Aug: D A Greenhill, Foreign Office

1945 Dec - 1947 Jan: Mrs M D Montgomery, Treasury

1947 Nov - Dec: R G Dundass, Foreign Office

1948 Dec: Miss C Waterlow, Foreign Office

1949 Apr - 1950 Jan: M M Du Merton, Foreign Office

1949 July- 1950 Jan: T E Evans, Foreign Office

1952 Aug - 1953 Feb: J C B Richmond

The committee reviewed Britain's political, economic and supply policy in the Middle East in relation to the requirements of imperial security and co-ordinated departmental action. It examined the British Middle East Office's function of developing and co-ordinating policy in the region covering Egypt, Iraq, Palestine-Transjordan, Syria and Lebanon, Cyprus, Persia, Saudi Arabia, Aden and Aden Protectorate, Yemen, Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, Ethiopia, the Sudan, the Somalilands and the Arab states of the Persian Gulf including Muscat. The committee discussions included oil, major power interests in the region, development projects (especially irrigation in Iraq), Middle Eastern countries as markets for UK exports, refugees and commodities in world short supply (especially oil and cereals). It also considered questions of transportation, telecommunications, locusts and the UN Economic Survey Mission to the Middle East. In the early 1950s it examined plans for a Middle East supply centre in the event of war.

There is no list of memoranda for the years 1945 to 1950.

See also CO 537; and entry for Middle East Official Committee in Section 8.3.2.

CAB 134/499-502, 1053

Middle East Supplies Committee (SME)

1 Apr 1942 - 17 May 1945

Meetings: 33

Papers: 247

Subjects: civil supply; Middle East

Chairmen: 1942 Apr - Dec: H Crookshank, financial secretary to the Treasury

1943 Jan - 1944 Oct: R Assheton, financial secretary to the Treasury

1944 Aug - 1945 May: G Laithwaite, Offices of the War Cabinet

1945 Feb: O Peake, financial secretary to the Treasury

Secretaries: 1942 Apr - Dec: A A Evans, Ministry of War Transport

1942 Apr: P A Wilson, Board of Inland Revenue

1942 Apr - 1944 Apr: G M Smith, no details

1943 Jan: W J Arkell, Ministry of War Transport

1943 May - 1945 May: E D T Jourdain, Ministry of War Transport

1943 June - Dec: G B Blaker, Ministry of Production

1944 Aug: A Ker, Admiralty

The committee considered policy questions relating to civil supplies for the Middle East region, including Persia and Iraq. It was concerned with import requirements, especially food, and emphasized reducing imports to essential requirements only. Food control and distribution were examined as were the scope, constitution and recommendations of the Middle East Supply Centre.

CAB 92/46-49

Middle East Supplies Committee (Washington) (MESC(W)(42) & SME(W)(43))

12 Nov 1942 - 11 Mar 1944

Meetings: 14

Papers: 30

Subjects: civil supply; Middle East

Chairmen: 1942 Nov - Dec: R H Brand, British Supply Council

1942 Dec - 1943 Jan: L Beale, British Supply Council

1943 Jan: J J Llewellyn, no details

1943 Jan: P I Brandford, United Kingdom Commercial Corporation Mission

1943 Nov: P Boulasse, British Supply Mission

1944 Jan: B Smith, British minister resident in Washington for supply

The committee was concerned with the Middle East Supply Centre, a British body which became Anglo-American in 1942 and was responsible for civilian supplies to Middle East territories, including Malta and British Somaliland. The committee considered the establishment of a Washington agency of the Middle East Centre. It discussed the lend-lease civilian requirements for Palestine and Transjordan and the requisitioning procedure for British colonies.

See also Middle East Supplies Committee: Middle East Supplies Washington (Combined) Committee. See T 263/32.

CAB 92/50

Middle East Supplies Committee: Middle East Supplies Washington (Combined) Committee (SME(A))

Dec 1942 - 8 Mar 1945

Meetings: 72

Papers: 41

Subjects: civil supply; Middle East

The committee considered supply requirements for the Middle East Area including foodstuffs, petroleum products and special passenger cars.

See also Middle East Supplies Committee (Washington).

CAB 92/49

Military Co-ordination Committee (MC)

13 Nov 1939 - 10 May 1940

Meetings: 50

Papers: 140

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1939 Nov - 1940 Mar: Lord Chatfield, minister for co-ordination of defence
1939 Dec - 1940 May: W S Churchill, first lord of the Admiralty
1940 Apr: N Chamberlain, prime minister

The committee kept the strategic situation under constant review, with the supply of armaments as a major concern. Colonial matters were often included in its discussions. For example, the War Cabinet asked the committee to examine the Chiefs of Staff's review of military policy in the Middle East and recommendations for long term policy. It also looked at defences in the colonies to guard against the outbreak of war with Italy, the formation of an African division in Kenya and the air defence of Malta.

CAB 83/1-5

Ministerial Committee on Cyprus (GEN 497)

30 June 1955 - 17 Aug 1955

Meetings: 3

Papers: 6

Subjects: constitutional development; Middle East

Chairmen: 1955 June - July: S Lloyd, minister of defence
1955 Aug: H Macmillan, secretary of state for foreign affairs
Secretary: 1955 June - Aug: D A Scott, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee examined alternative courses of action for presentation at the forthcoming tripartite conference with Greece and Turkey on the future of Cyprus. There was a need for a formula whereby Cyprus was offered some degree of self-government, short of full self-determination, but it was not clear whether the Greek and Turkish governments should be associated with the Cyprus government in administering the island. Britain was concerned with the need to secure a base for the deployment and supply of troops to the Middle East.

CAB 130/109

Ministerial Committee on Economic Planning (MEP)

21 Jan 1946 - 9 Jan 1947

Meetings: 8

Papers: 25

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1946 Jan - 1947 Jan: H Morrison, lord president of the Council

Secretaries: 1946 Jan - Oct: M T Flett, Treasury

1947 Jan: J A R Pimlott, Home Office

The committee was concerned with producing a yearly economic survey of the UK economy including a forecast and review of the overseas economy. It was primarily concerned with strengthening and planning a post-war domestic economy, but it produced papers implicitly covering colonial matters, for instance balance of payments, resources, imports and exports and raw materials.

CAB 134/503

Ministerial Committee on Economic Policy: Ministerial Sub-Committee on Encouragement of Exports (EP(M)(E)(39))

10 Nov 1939

Meetings: 1

Papers: 8

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1939 Nov: O Stanley, president of the Board of Trade

Secretary: 1939 Nov: A E Welch, Board of Trade

The committee was set up to formulate the broad principles for encouraging exports. Britain wanted to increase exports outside the sterling area for exchange reasons and empire producers were urged to reduce imports and increase exports, for instance rubber from Malaya, to dollar areas. The committee considered whether West African cocoa exports to the USA could be stimulated.

CAB 72/10

Ministerial Committee on Economic Policy: Sub-Committee on Export Surpluses (EP(M)(E) & ESC(M))

12 Aug 1940 - 13 Nov 1941

Meetings: 10

Papers: 46

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1940 Aug - 1941 Apr: A Greenwood, minister without portfolio

Secretaries: 1940 Aug - 1941 Nov: J W F Rowe, Ministry of Economic Warfare

1941 Sept - Nov: Mrs M T Hollond, Ministry of Economic Warfare

The committee was formed to recommend steps to be taken to deal with surpluses of commodities denied to the enemy by the British blockade. Colonial products were of particular concern as they were being adversely affected by the blockade and shipping problems, and many products were difficult to store and to regulate, for instance bananas from the West Indies and oilseed and cocoa from West Africa. It was hoped that the USA might increase its imports to alleviate the situation. The committee looked at surpluses territory by territory and estimated the balance of payments in various colonies. It produced a comprehensive economic survey of territories producing surplus commodities.

CAB 72/13-14**Ministerial Committee on Economic Policy: Sub-Committee on Substitute Materials (EP(SM)(40))**

23 Apr 1940 - 25 Sept 1940

Meetings: 5

Papers: 29

Subjects: research

Chairman: 1940 Apr - Sept: E V Appleton, secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

Secretary: 1940 Apr - June, O F Brown, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

1940 July - Sept: C A Spencer, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

The sub-committee was set up to make a survey of research and development in progress to secure wartime substitutes for vital materials. It reported on steps to be taken to promote research on particular materials that could prove inadequate to meet wartime demand, the direction of further research and the scientific priorities for experiments. Some of the substitute materials experimented upon were from the colonial territories, for instance, cocoa beans residue was examined as a potential fertiliser.

CAB 72/21**Ministerial Committee on Military Policy in the Middle East (MR(M)(40))**

15 July 1940 - 11 July 1941

Meetings: 14

Papers: 15

Subjects: Africa; defence; Middle East

Chairmen: 1940 July-Oct: A Eden, secretary of state for war and 1941 May-July secretary of state for foreign affairs
1941 Jan: H D Margesson, secretary of state for war

The committee reviewed the conduct of the war in the Middle East and reported to the minister of defence. It examined British strategic interests in the Middle East in terms of the fleet based at Alexandria, the Red Sea and Suez Canal route to Egypt and Palestine and the Anglo-Iranian oilfields. It recognized that supplementing or replacing the Red Sea route would necessitate securing overland routes from Basra to Haifa and from Mombasa to Cairo, which meant defending Kenya, Uganda and Sudan. The development of Malta as a base for offensive air operations was also discussed.

See also WO 259/33.

CAB 95/2

Ministerial Committee on Oversea Broadcasting (GEN 554)

9 Oct 1956 - 12 Dec 1956

Meetings: 3

Papers: 7

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairmen: 1956 Oct: R A Butler, lord privy seal
1956 Dec: W Monckton, paymaster-general
Secretaries: 1956 Oct-Dec: B St J Trend, Treasury
1956 Oct - Dec: M Widdup, Treasury

The committee reviewed the external services of the British Broadcasting Corporation in terms of expenditure and improvement and considered ways of securing a more cogent and persuasive presentation of the UK point of view.

See also Committee on Oversea Information Services (Ministerial).

CAB 130/120

Ministerial Committee on Preparations for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting (GEN 531)

21 June 1956

Meetings: 1

Papers: 3

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1956 June: A Eden, prime minister
Secretary: 1956 June: J B Hunt, Treasury

The committee considered the questions to be raised at the meeting including commonwealth membership of the Gold Coast, relations with Ceylon, anti-colonialism and other colonial questions. It considered the need for a statement on Cyprus a priority.

See also Official Committee on Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting.

CAB 130/116

Ministerial Committee on Strategic Exports Policy (SEP 56)

13 June 1956 - 9 July 1956

Meetings: 2

Papers: 19

Subjects: defence; information services/communications

Chairman: 1956 June - July: S Lloyd, secretary of state for foreign affairs

Secretary: 1956 June - July: G Wheeler, Ministry of Defence

The committee was established to consider policy questions relating to the export of military equipment and other goods of strategic importance. It examined arms export policy and included consideration of supplies of aircraft, air equipment and spares to Iraq, Jordan and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. It also looked at details of war materials, aircraft and engines for Iraq and Jordan and arms for Israel.

CAB 134/1326

Ministerial Committee on Supply Questions in Liberated and Conquered Areas (SLA)

13 Jan 1944 - 4 Jan 1945

Meetings: 5

Papers: 25

Subjects: civil supply

Chairman: 1944 Jan - 1945 Jan: O Lyttelton, minister of production

Secretaries: 1944 Jan: H V Hodson, Ministry of Production

1944 Jan - 1945 Jan: W J Hasler, Foreign Office

1944 May - 1945 Jan: K McGregor, Ministry of Health

1944 Nov: A Lousada, Ministry of Production

The committee was set up to consider and where necessary advise the War Cabinet on matters of policy or execution concerning supplies to and from liberated and conquered areas. For the most part it was concerned with Europe. It also discussed the machinery for dealing with the requirements of and supplies to the British territories in the Far East which came under the Colonial Office together with the Malayan, British Borneo and Hong Kong Planning Units. The committee proposed a system of priorities for the Far East territories which it compared with those in other non-British territories in the Far East and other British territories elsewhere.

See also Official Committee on Supply Questions in Liberated and Conquered Areas.

CAB 87/38

Ministerial Committee on United States Bases (MB(41))

3 Feb 1941 - 27 Feb 1941

Meetings: 5

Papers: 13

Subjects: defence; West Indies

Chairman: 1941 Feb: A Greenwood, minister without portfolio

Secretary: 1941 Feb: A D Nicholl, no details

Britain leased bases to the USA in Bermuda, Jamaica, St Lucia, Trinidad, Antigua, British Guiana and the Bahamas but intended that British sovereignty should remain unimpaired. The committee considered the command of forces in these territories. It also looked at mail censorship and customs duties.

CAB 98/17

Ministerial Oil Committee (MOC)

28 Mar 1944 - 24 May 1944

Meetings: 7

Papers: 12

Subjects: Middle East; oil

Chairman: 1944 Mar - May: Lord Leathers, Ministry of War Transport

Secretary: 1944 Mar - May: G Laithwaite, India Office

The committee was concerned with US-UK discussions aimed at reaching agreement on oil policy. Middle Eastern oil questions were emphasized and the agreement included a declaration of intention to encourage economic development in the producing countries. The committee examined these countries' interests to establish how best to serve them. It was briefed by the UK delegation and made recommendations to the War Cabinet as to how the discussions should proceed.

CAB 77/15

Morale and Welfare in the Far East (GEN 45)

3 Nov 1944 - 24 Aug 1945

Meetings: 5

Papers: 27

Subjects: defence; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1944 Nov: W S Churchill, prime minister and minister of defence

1944 Nov - 1945 Feb: A V Alexander, first lord of the Admiralty

1945 Apr: J Anderson, chancellor of the Exchequer

1945 Aug: C R Attlee, prime minister and minister of defence

Secretary: 1944 Nov - 1945 Apr: C A Roberts, War Office

The committee was concerned with the morale and welfare of the forces in India, Ceylon, South-East Asia and the Pacific and made recommendations on how improvements could be achieved. Air transport was seen as the key to a host of welfare problems, and efforts were made to improve the service.

CAB 78/27

Mutual Aid Committee (MAC)

24 Oct 1950 - 29 Oct 1956

Meetings: 308

Papers: 1351

Subjects: defence; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1951 May: E A Hitchman, Treasury

1951 May - 1955 Oct: W Strath, Treasury

1951 July: E A Berthoud, Foreign Office

1951 Aug - 1952 Mar: E G Compton, Treasury

1951 Dec - 1952 Feb: K Anderson, Treasury

1952 Feb - Nov: M Dean, Treasury

1952 May - 1953 Oct: A W France, Treasury

1952 July: E W Playfair, Treasury

1952 Sept: E A Shillito, Treasury

1954 Feb - 1955 Oct: F F Turnbull, Treasury

1954 Dec - 1955 Apr: D H F Rickett, Treasury

1955 July: B F St J Trend, Treasury

1955 Oct - 1956 Oct: F E Figgures, Treasury

1955 Oct - 1956 June: R W B Clarke, Treasury

1956 Mar - May: P Nicholls, Treasury

1956 Mar: J G Spicer, Treasury

Secretaries: 1950 Dec - 1951 Sept: R W Jackling, Foreign Office

1951 July - 1952 Jan: T L Beagley, Ministry of Transport (then Cabinet Office)

1951 Dec - 1952 Sept: A Savage, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (then Cabinet Office)

1951 Dec - 1952 Jan: J A Atkinson, Ministry of Supply (then Cabinet Office)

1952 Jan - Feb: K H Herde, no details

1952 Feb - 1953 May: A J W S Leonard, Treasury

1952 Apr - 1953 Dec: N J P Hutchison, Home Office (Scotland)

1952 July - 1953 Mar: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

1952 Dec - 1955 Feb: K H Cadbury, Post Office

1952 Mar - 1954 July: P L Brock, Ministry of Civil Aviation

1954 Apr - 1955 May: D J Derx, Board of Trade

1954 July - 1955 Dec: D A Scott, Commonwealth Relations Office

1954 Dec - 1955 Oct: J R D Gildea, Board of Trade

1955 Mar - July: J Littlewood, Treasury

1955 June: E P Wright, Treasury

1955 Aug - Oct: T A Critchley, Home Office

1955 Sept - 1956 Oct: R L Briggs, Ministry of Health

1955 Nov - 1956 July: M Widdup, Treasury

1952 Apr - Oct: L Airey, Ministry of Supply

1956 Sept: J G Liverman, Ministry of Fuel and Power

The committee took over the work of the European Economic Co-operation Committee (qv). It considered interdepartmental questions relating to US aid for economic recovery and defence. It reported to the Economic Policy Committee (qv) directly or through the Economic Steering Committee. Its papers contain figures on colonial forces, expenditure on colonial forces and colonial participation in Economic Recovery Programme aid. The committee also considered the nature and extent of American aid to the colonies.

See also T 229/576.

CAB 134/488-492, 1010-1030, 1282-1286

Mutual Aid Committee: Sub-Committee on East-West Trade (MAC(EW))

3 June 1953 - 16 July 1953

Meetings: 7

Papers: 37

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1953 June - July: A W France, Treasury

The committee was set up to review British policy towards East/West trade in the light of economic policies, strategic controls, the American attitude and possible economic developments. It made recommendations on the expansion of trade and was mainly concerned with trade with the Soviet bloc and China including their trade with the sterling area and colonies. It examined Soviet bloc raw material imports from the sterling area and looked at imports such as rice from China to Hong Kong and Malaya. It also examined the implications of losing Indo-China, Burma and Siam to communism, the use by the communists of vital commodities such as rice as inducements and the colonies' dependency on rice exports from China and the Soviet bloc.

CAB 134/1045

Mutual Aid Committee: Sub-Committee on South and South-East Asia (MAC (SA))

26 May 1955 - 30 Oct 1956

Meetings: 12

Papers: 79

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1955 May - 1956 July: W Armstrong, Treasury

1955 Oct: D M B Butt, Treasury

1956 Sept - Oct: H A F Rumbold, Commonwealth Relations Office

Secretaries: 1955 May - Aug: J Littlewood, Treasury

1955 Sept - 1956 Oct: B L Biggs, Ministry of Health

Established to deal with problems concerning economic development and mutual aid in South and South-East Asia, the sub-committee was primarily concerned with the Colombo Plan. It considered the supply of capital goods and raw material sources under the plan and examined a summary of the conference of Asian members of the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee (Simla Conference). It also considered the South-East Asia Defence Treaty, the special United Nations fund for economic development and atomic energy.

CAB 134/1051, 1052, 1292

Natural Resources (Technical) Committee (NR)

14 Dec 1950 - 22 Sept 1955

Meetings: 48

Papers: 174

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1950 Dec - 1955 June: S Zuckerman, Office of the Lord President of the Council and Agricultural Research Council

1951 June: R P Linstead, Imperial College of Science and Technology

1953 Feb - Apr: N Wright, Agricultural Research Council

Secretaries: 1950 Dec - 1955 June: E D T Jourdain, Office of the Lord President of the Council

1950 Dec - 1951 Dec: A L Thorogood, Office of the Lord President of the Council

1951 Jan - 1952 Dec: R A E Galley, Agricultural Research Council

1951 Mar-June: J Wardley Smith, Agricultural Research Council

1951 May - 1953 Apr: W J Clenshaw, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

1952 Oct - 1955 June: W F Waters, Office of Lord President of the Council

1953 May - 1955 June: Mrs J O Paton, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

The committee was set up to advise the lord president of the Council on technical problems of the development, use and conservation of natural resources through a consideration of the UK's import and investment programmes. It was primarily concerned with raw materials, many of which were of colonial origin. It assessed worldwide prospects and considered world production, consumption and reserves of copper (Northern Rhodesia), lead and zinc (Northern Rhodesia and Tanganyika). Other considerations included alternatives for pulp supplies in soft currency areas including British Guiana, British East Africa and Southern Rhodesia; increasing the cotton crop in the African territories; and using bagasse from British Guiana, Jamaica and Trinidad as a raw material for paper and board production.

CAB 132/53, 89-93

Natural Resources (Technical) Committee: Working Party on Pulp Production (NR(P))

21 Nov 1951 - 11 Dec 1952

Meetings: 14

Papers: 34

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products; research

Chairman: 1951 Nov - 1952 Dec: E L Hill, Ministry of Supply

Secretaries: 1951 Nov - 1952 Dec: W F Waters, Office of Lord President of the Council
1952 July: W J Clenshaw, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

The working party examined the technical aspects of the supply and processing of various cellulosic raw materials for producing pulp for the paper and rayon industries. It considered the use of bagasse in the West Indies for pulping and studied a brief survey of Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad. It also prepared a report on the production of cellulose pulp from the empire and reviewed an investigation of dominion and colonial materials for paper pulp production, such as bamboo from East Africa.

CAB 132/56, 101

Office of the United Kingdom Commissioner General in South-East Asia (GEN 494)

15 Apr 1955 - 3 Aug 1955

Meetings: 4

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1955 Apr - Aug: N Brook, Cabinet Office

The committee was set up to consider whether the post of commissioner general was still necessary and if so what its main functions should be. While the Colonial Office no longer considered the post necessary because of the advanced stage of development of the main colonial territories in the area, the committee favoured retaining it. It was decided that the commissioner general would be appointed by the prime minister, rather than by the sovereign, and that since the main objective in South-East Asia was to contain communism in peacetime, the commissioner general should be a civilian.

CAB 130/109

Official Committee for Questions concerning the Middle East (ME(O)(39))

22 Sept 1939 - 9 July 1943

Meetings: 12

Papers: 73

Subjects: Africa; Middle East

Chairmen: 1939 Sept - 1942 Jan: J E Shuckburgh, Colonial Office

1942 Apr - 1943 July: W Battershill, Colonial Office

1943 July: C W Baxter, Foreign Office

Secretary: 1943 Jan - July: Miss A E Murdoch, no details

The committee was broadly concerned with British policy in the Middle East. It gave particular attention to the Transjordan and to frontier negotiations with the Imam of Yemen concerning Aden, and it discussed the position of British Somaliland.

See also Ministerial Committee on Military Policy in the Middle East.

CAB 95/1

Official Committee on Colonial Policy (CA(O)(56) & CP(O)(57))

1 Jan 1956 - 11 July 1957

Meetings: 7

Papers: 18

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; constitutional development

Chairman: 1956 Jan - 1957 July: N Brook, Cabinet Office

Secretary: 1956 Jan - 1957 July: I Watt, Colonial Office

The committee was initially concerned with the implications for other colonial territories of the possibility of Maltese representation at Westminster and with the application of statehood to smaller territories, particularly the Gambia, British Honduras and Mauritius. It examined the proposed Gold Coast constitution and limitations on legislative and executive powers in colonial territories. It later considered the Singapore constitution and future constitutional development in the colonies, including a survey of developments in each dependent territory. It also looked at a regional analysis of colonial balance of payments and sterling assets, for example in West Africa and the Far East.

As CAB 134/1552 is closed this information is incomplete.

CAB 134/1203, 1551-1552**Official Committee on Commonwealth Membership (GEN 435)**

15 May 1953 - 20 Jan 1954

Meetings: 4

Papers: 6

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1953 May - 1954 Jan: N Brook, Cabinet Office

Secretary: 1953 May - 1954 Jan: A F Morley, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee considered the problem of colonial territories becoming members of the Commonwealth and of international organizations. This was precipitated by Malta's request that its affairs be transferred from the Colonial Office to the Commonwealth Relations Office and by the anticipation of a similar request from the Gold Coast. The committee also looked at a paper discussing prospects for independence in the Gold Coast, Nigeria, Malaya, Central African Federation and the British Caribbean Federation. The position of Indians in colonial territories and the two-tier system of commonwealth membership were also examined.

CAB 130/87**Official Committee on Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting (GEN 518)**

24 Feb 1956 - 18 June 1956

Meetings: 5

Papers: 12

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; constitutional development

Chairman: 1956 Feb - June: N Brook, Cabinet Office

Secretary: 1956 Feb - June: J B Hunt, Treasury

The committee was concerned with preparations for the forthcoming Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting. The agenda included many subjects of colonial relevance, and the committee examined briefs on future relationships with China and the security of South-East Asia, the economic position of the sterling area, Gold Coast candidature for commonwealth membership and the progress of other territories towards self-government. It gave particular attention to the move toward self-government in Nigeria, the British West Indies and the Federation of Malaya and Singapore, and it examined the problems of constitutional development in smaller colonial territories such as British Honduras and Mauritius. The committee suggested that the topic of anti-colonialism be introduced at the meeting in the hope of influencing opinion in the United Nations by presenting UK colonial policy in a positive way. Finally it discussed UK bases in Ceylon, Ceylon's desire to be a republic and the advancement in status of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

See also Ministerial Committee on Preparations for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting.

CAB 130/113

Official Committee on Economic Development (Overseas) (ED(OS))

12 Apr 1949 - 21 Nov 1949

Meetings: 8

Papers: 35

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1949 Apr - Nov: Sir E Plowden, Central Economic Planning Staff

1949 June - Aug: E A Hitchman, Central Economic Planning Staff

1949 Sept: J R McK Willis, Central Economic Planning Staff

Secretary: 1949 Aug-Nov: M M Du Merton, Foreign Office

The Official Committee on Economic Development was assigned responsibility for co-ordinating the activities of the Committee on Colonial Development (qv), Commonwealth Economic Development Committee (qv), Middle East (Official) Committee (qv) and Far East (Official) Committee (qv). It considered the total amount of resources devoted to overseas development, ensured that they were allocated to the best advantage among various claimants and related this overseas development to capital investment in the UK. The committee held separate meetings at which only those departments with an interest in overseas economic development were normally represented, and when meeting in this form it was known as the Official Committee on Economic Development (Overseas).

CAB 134/194-195

Official Committee on Economic Development Working Group (ED(W))

17 May 1949 - 12 Sept 1950

Meetings: 23

Papers: 50

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1949 May - 1950 Sept: Sir E Plowden, Central Economic Planning Staff

1949 Nov - 1950 Mar: E Bridges, Treasury

Secretaries: 1949 May - 1950 May: C H W Hodges, Treasury

1950 Jan - May: Miss E J Beaven, Board of Trade

1950 May: A K Ogilvy Webb, Treasury

1950 Sept: R S Buer, Ministry of Food

1950 Sept: D J Atherton, Treasury

The working group was set up to bring together the different strands of British overseas economic policy and to regulate overseas and internal economic policy. It dealt mainly with matters concerning the dollar and with general international economic and trading issues, giving special attention to control of imports, dual price policy and dollar oil-sterling oil questions.

CAB 134/202-203

Official Committee on Economic Development: Working Party on Economic Development in South and South-East Asia (ED(SA))

23 Feb 1950 - 18 Dec 1951

Meetings: 61

Papers: 237

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1950 Feb - Aug: D B Pitblado, Central Economic Planning Staff, Treasury

1950 Mar: Sir Herbert Brittain, Treasury

1950 Mar - Oct: R W Strath, Central Economic Planning Staff, Treasury

1950 Aug - 1952 Apr: R W B Clarke, Treasury

1950 Nov - 1954 Sept: A C B Symon, Commonwealth Relations Office

1950 Feb - 1953 Sept: M Flett, Treasury

1953 Sept - 1955 Mar: W Armstrong, Treasury

1954 July - 1955 Jan: A H M Hillis, Treasury

Secretaries: 1950 Mar: J Mark, Treasury

1950 Mar: Miss M H Locke, Treasury

1950 May: P Nichols, Treasury

1950 July - 1951 Dec: J Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

1950 July: R Marshall, Ministry of Works

1950 Dec - 1951 May: P G Oates, Ministry of Transport

1951 Sept: A Savage, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

1952 - 1953 Sept: A J W S Leonard, Treasury

1952 Feb: K Herde, no details

1953 Sept: D Somerville, Ministry of Health

1954 Aug - 1955 Apr: D A Scott, Commonwealth Relations Office

1954 Sept: P L Brock, no details

1955 Jan-Mar: D J Derx, Board of Trade

1955 Apr: J Littlewood, Treasury

The working party dealt with problems concerning the economic development of South and South-East Asia with particular reference to the proposals made at the Commonwealth meeting on Foreign Affairs in Colombo (the Colombo Plan). It examined technical assistance to South and South-East Asia, US aid policy in the region and development plans for individual territories and for the Federation of Malaya and Singapore. Other issues considered included the food yeast factory in Jamaica, commodity agreements on cocoa and rubber, sterling balances and rice production in South and South-East Asia.

CAB 134/196-201

Official Committee on Empire Telecommunication Services (ETS(O))

19 July 1944 - 12 Dec 1944

Meetings: 9

Papers: 31

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1944 Jul - Dec: J Rae, Treasury

Secretaries: 1944 June - Dec: W E Phillips, no details

1944 Aug - Dec: Miss M P Rowe Dutton, Treasury

The committee examined the recommendations made in the interim report of the Commonwealth Communications Council that a public utility organization should be set up to conduct empire telecommunication services, and it reviewed the telecommunication services in the colonies.

See also Committee on Empire Telecommunications Services.

CAB 76/8

Official Committee on Export Surpluses (EP(ES)(O))

11 Sept 1940 - 27 Nov 1941

Meetings: 27

Papers: 235

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1940 Sept - Nov: F Hemming, War Cabinet Office

1940 Nov - 1941 Nov: F Leith-Ross, Ministry of Economic Warfare

Secretaries: 1941 Feb - Aug: J W F Rowe, Ministry of Economic Warfare

1941 Sept - Nov: Mrs M T Hollond, Ministry of Economic Warfare

The committee's investigation of the problem of export surpluses included colonial questions. For instance, due to the shipping situation the Ministry of Food had suspended the importation of West Indian citrus fruit and bananas. Jamaica was particularly affected as bananas were its

main export and the UK its main market. Other commodities considered included sisal and colonial empire cocoa, East African coffee and cotton in the Sudan and Uganda.

CAB 72/15-17

Official Committee on Export Surpluses: Sugar Sub-Committee (EP(ES)(S)(41)) later S(O)(S)(41))

18 Jan 1941 - 12 Feb 1941

Meetings: 5

Papers: 11

Subjects: foodstuffs

Chairman: 1941 Jan: H F Carlill, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1941 Feb: Mrs E M Chilver, no details

The sub-committee was set up to prepare a statement of British policy on sugar, send a reply to Washington intimating that such a statement was in preparation and ask the Sub-Committee of the International Sugar Council to send the results of its survey of the world sugar position and any conclusions on the best way of dealing with wartime problems and the long term difficulties of the industry. The British government's sugar policy was based on shipping and exchange considerations.

CAB 72/18

Official Committee on Food Supplies from South-East Asia and certain other Countries (SEAF)

18 Feb 1946 - 23 Mar 1949

Meetings: 42

Papers: 238

Subjects: foodstuffs; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1946 Feb - Sept: Lord Nathan, parliamentary under-secretary of state, War Office

1946 Nov: Sir G Laithwaite, Burma Office

1946 Dec - 1949 Mar: M E Dening, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1946 Feb: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

1946 Feb - 1946 Feb: Mrs M D Montgomery, Treasury

1946 Apr - 1947 Mar: W A Morris, Colonial Office

The committee was established to co-ordinate action by UK departments on increasing supplies of rice and other foodstuffs in South-East Asia and on efficient distribution within the region. It also co-ordinated action on communications with the special commissioner for South-East Asia concerning food problems and related economic questions, and its memoranda include monthly economic bulletins issued by the special commissioner. In addition, it considered reports on food production in British West Africa, including one on the West African Oil Seeds Commission. When it was abolished on 2 May 1949 its functions were taken over by the Far Eastern (Official) Committee (qv).

CAB 134/677-682

Official Committee on Food Supplies from South-East Asia and certain other Countries: Sub-Committee on the Proposal to send a Mission to West Africa SEAF(WA))

26 June 1946

Subjects: Africa; Far East/South-East Asia; foodstuffs

Chairman: 1946 June: Lord Nathan, War Office

Secretary: 1946 June: E A Armstrong, Ministry of Civil Aviation

The sub-committee considered the composition and terms of reference of the proposed mission to West Africa in accordance with the decision of the main committee. As CAB 134/686 has been retained by the department it is difficult to establish how many meetings and papers there were.

CAB 134/685-686

Official Committee on Food Supplies from South-East Asia and certain other Countries: Working Party on the Revision of the Tripartite Rice Agreement with Siam (GEN 157)

31 Oct 1946 - 11 Nov 1948

Meetings: 14

Papers: 1

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; foodstuffs

Chairmen: 1947 Apr: E A Armstrong, Ministry of Food

1947 Apr - 1948 Aug: K G Christofas, Foreign Office

1947 Dec: G C Whitteridge, Foreign Office

1948 Jan: N E Martin, Ministry of Fuel and Power

The working party examined proposals for the revision of the Tripartite Rice Agreement and the retention or abolition of the Rice Purchasing Bureau. Smuggling from Siam to Malaya and coal supplies for Hong Kong were considered, and there was a brief review of the rice situation in South-East Asia.

CAB 130/15

Official Committee on Malta (MC(O))

28 July 1955 - 22 Sept 1955

Meetings: 10

Papers: 31

Subjects: constitutional development; Mediterranean

Chairman: 1955 July - Sept: F F Turnbull, Treasury

Secretaries: 1955 July - Aug: E M West, Colonial Office

1955 Sept: R L Briggs, Ministry of Health

The committee studied the economic, financial, social and constitutional implications of possible schemes for closer association between the UK and Malta and assisted ministers in preparations for the round table conference on Malta. It examined proposals from Malta's political parties and the arguments presented by the Colonial Office on the subject of integration. Other considerations included the development of industry in Malta and the responses of other dependent territories to the proposals for Malta. The memoranda include papers from the Malta Round Table Conference.

See also Malta Committee (Ministerial). See Malta Round Table Conference (CAB 133/143-147).

CAB 134/1296

Official Committee on Oversea Information Services (OI(O))

9 Sept 1957 - 16 Dec 1957

Meetings: 8

Papers: 34

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1957 Sept - Dec: C Hill, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

The committee was set up to keep under review the overseas information services, to co-ordinate the activities of the departments and agencies concerned and to report to the Committee on Oversea Information Services (Ministerial) (qv). Its main concern was information policy and publicity themes to suit the differing requirements of various regions. It was concerned with combating communist influence, especially in South-East Asia. It examined the activities of Reuters and the British Council and looked at a proposed commercial broadcasting station in Cyprus, prospects for television in colonial territories and world television services.

See also Overseas Information Services (Official) Committee; Committee on Oversea Information Services (Ministerial); and Overseas Information Services (Ministerial) Committee.

CAB 134/2325

Official Committee on Preparations for Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Meeting: United Kingdom Working Party on Commonwealth Development (GEN 446(DP))

22 Oct 1953 - 12 Nov 1953

Meetings: 3

Papers: 36

Subjects: commonwealth affairs/conferences; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1953 Oct - Nov: W A Armstrong, Treasury

Secretaries: 1953 Oct - Nov: G R Ashford, Treasury

1953 Oct - Nov: J A Hudson, Ministry of Education

In preparation for the meeting, the committee considered commonwealth development and general economic conditions since the Commonwealth Economic Conference in 1952. The UK gold and dollar reserves had risen and there had been a steady improvement in the balance of payments of the sterling area. However, this varied from country to country, and the colonies still had a deficit, due largely to world trends in commodity prices and shifts in UK commodity policy. The committee examined development studies of commonwealth countries, including Ceylon where the situation was unsatisfactory because of falls in its export prices. The expanding economic activity of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland was also covered. The dependent territories were generally considered as a whole, but individual commodities were studied briefly, for instance the possibility of starting or expanding coffee production in East Africa, the West Indies, parts of West Africa and Malaya.

CAB 130/97

Official Committee on Preparations for the Commonwealth Economic Conference (PEC(O)(52))

28 Oct 1952 - 20 Nov 1952

Meetings: 6

Papers: 19

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs

Chairman: 1952 Oct - Nov: N Brook, Cabinet Office

Secretary: 1952 Nov: J A Bergin, Board of Trade

The committee was concerned with arrangements for the forthcoming conference and prepared briefs for the UK delegation on such subjects as commodity policy. It looked at development policy in the sterling area and considered how to improve the balance of payments. The supply of rice was considered, as Ceylon was suffering from shortages.

CAB 133/132

Official Committee on the Middle East (OME)

18 Jan 1957 - 9 Dec 1957

Meetings: 32

Papers: 36

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1957 Jan - Mar: H Beeley, Foreign Office

1957 Feb - May: P Gore-Booth, Foreign Office

1957 May - Nov: W Hayter, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1957 Jan - Oct: S Faue, no details

1957 June - Dec: D R Collard, no details

1957 Nov: T R H Godden, Colonial Office

The committee was concerned with policy, financial commitments and trade in the Middle East. Its main objective was to protect Western, especially British, interests as a result of the destruction of the pumping stations in Syria which had deprived Iraq of oil revenue. Iraq's

financial position was examined, as well as the Iraq Petroleum Company and the Baghdad Pact. The committee considered Anglo-American co-operation in Middle East development and the British position at the forthcoming Bermuda Conference. It also discussed financial arrangements for the urgent clearance of the Suez Canal and its future maintenance.

CAB 134/1297-1299, 2338-2339

Official Committee on the Middle East: Suez Canal Sub-Committee (OME(SC)(57))

12 Feb 1957 - 10 July 1957

Meetings: 5

Papers: 8

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1957 Feb - July: H Beeley, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1957 Feb - June: R Arculus, no details

1957 June - July: R A Fyjis-Walker

The committee was concerned with negotiations on the Suez Canal. It examined the 1888 convention and the form of a new agreement; the relationship between the Egyptian government, the Suez Canal Authority and the canal users; and the role of governments and commercial interests. It also considered financial arrangements for the clearance of the canal and the establishment of a user powers association.

CAB 134/2349

Official Committee on the Military Implications of General Templer's Report on Colonial Security (GEN 501)

15 July 1955 - 28 July 1956

Meetings: 5

Papers: 10

Subjects: Africa; defence

Chairman: 1955 Jan - 1956 June: H Parker, Ministry of Defence

Secretaries: 1955 July - Dec: D A Scott, Commonwealth Relations Office

1956 June: L Airey, Ministry of Supply

1955 July - 1956 June: J A Eardley-Wilmot, Ministry of Defence

The committee examined the role of the forces in the colonies during the period of evolution toward self-government with special regard to the system of command and administration necessary to achieve zonal systems of defence in East and West Africa. It was assumed that these studies would help to resolve problems confronting other areas, such as the Caribbean and isolated colonies. The military and political situations were seen to be different in East and West Africa, as the Gold Coast was on the verge of independence, and the regions were considered separately. The committee also examined the future command and administration of colonial forces in terms of the post-war global strategy whereby UK garrisons in colonial territories were seen to provide defence for the Commonwealth as a whole, rather than only for

the colony in which they were based. The colonies were expected to contribute to the cost of such defence and each territory's contribution was examined.

CAB 130/111

Official Committee on the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (RG(O))

17 May 1954 - 24 Jan 1955

Meetings: 16

Papers: 95

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1954 May - Dec: E A Cohen, Board of Trade

1954 June - July: C W Sanders, Board of Trade

1954 Dec - 1955 Jan: A E Percival, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1954 May-July: Miss M J Lackey, Board of Trade

1954 Oct - 1955 Jan: Miss G N McCleary, Board of Trade

The review of GATT arose from the dramatic increase in its membership which had grown to thirty-four countries, including all the major trading nations except Argentina and Japan. The committee was concerned with policy questions arising from the review. Some were of direct concern to the dependent territories as they reflected the post-war changing relationship between the older industrialised countries and the underdeveloped countries which needed to build up secondary industries. Most of the memoranda are general without specific territorial focus, but some examine GATT and imperial preference in the colonies, for instance commerce and industries in the West Indies, the colonial problem and the Jamaican cigar industry.

See also Committee on the Review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

CAB 134/1154-1156

Official Committee on Supply Questions in Liberated and Conquered Areas (SLAO)

31 Dec 1943 - 8 June 1945

Meetings: 11

Papers: 644

Subjects: civil supply

Chairman: 1943 Dec - 1944 Sept: R S May, Ministry of Production

Secretaries: 1943 Dec - 1945 Jun: A A Mocatta, War Office

1944 Feb - Sept: I Montgomery, Treasury

1944 Apr: Miss B M Wellington, no details

1945 Mar: Miss M Parkes, no details

1945 June: Miss A Oppe, no details

The committee was set up to consider and where possible to reach agreement on questions concerning supplies to and from liberated and conquered areas affecting more than one department, and where necessary to submit recommendations to the Ministerial Committee on

Supply Questions in Liberated and Conquered Areas (qv). While mainly concerned with Europe, the committee examined supplies for liberated areas in the Far East and South-East Asia, procurement programmes and estimated requirements. The provision of supplies was considered essential, not only to restore damaged British prestige, but because raw materials from Borneo and Malaya (especially rubber and tin) were important dollar earners. The committee looked at the work of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) and its various sub-committees. It also considered UNRRA's request for supplies and reviewed briefings for the UK delegation to UNRRA Council sessions, for example, those concerning estimated requirements of UNRRA's Far East Regional Committee.

See also BT 25.

CAB 87/39-50

Official Committee on Welfare of Overseas Students (OS)

31 Aug 1948 - 23 May 1952

Meetings: 6

Papers: 25

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairman: 1948 Aug - 1951 May: C F A Warner, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1948 Aug - 1951 May: I G Cummings, Colonial Office

1951 May: R Gedling, Ministry of Health

The committee was mainly concerned with the provision of accommodation for students from the colonies and from commonwealth countries. Proposals were examined to establish a university international house and halls of residence in London, and steps were taken to discourage overseas students from arriving without a confirmed place in a university.

See also CO 537/5206.

CAB 134/604-605

Official Oil Committee (OOC)

31 Jan 1947 - 26 Oct 1950

Meetings: 14

Papers: 59

Subjects: oil

Chairman: 1947 Jan - 1949 Nov: D Ferguson, Ministry of Fuel and Power

Secretaries: 1947 Feb - 1949 Nov: R L Stock, Ministry of Fuel and Power

1947 Feb - Mar: D G Le Butt, Ministry of Fuel and Power

1947 Dec - 1948 June: J W Farrell, Ministry of Fuel and Power

1949 Mar - Nov: W Scott, no details

The committee considered questions of oil policy and made recommendations for planning oil resources, taking into account strategic, political and economic factors. Its main concern was to

evaluate the British oil position in the event of war, and it looked at requirements, supplies, refineries, storage, transportation and production and consumption. Many of its considerations concerned the Commonwealth and the colonial territories, including their requirements and sources of oil supply, the sale of oil to them and their production of oil.

CAB 134/588-589

Oil Control Board (OCB, OCB(45))

27 Nov 1939 - 10 July 1945

Meetings: 52

Papers: 532

Subjects: oil

Chairmen: 1939 Nov - 1940 May: G Lloyd, secretary for mines

1940 May - 1944 Dec: G Lloyd, secretary for petroleum

1945 July: A Hudson, Ministry of Fuel and Power

Secretaries: 1939 Nov - 1942 Feb: E J Coleman, Petroleum Division of the Mines Department

1940 Aug - 1942 Feb: M R Bridgman, Petroleum Department

1942 Apr - 1944 Dec: V S Butler, Ministry of Fuel and Power

1943 Sept - 1944 Dec: G H Oswald, Office of Minister of Defence

1942 Nov - 1944 May: K L Stock, Ministry of Fuel and Power

1944 May - 1945 July: M S Glennie, Ministry of Fuel and Power

Although the committee's major task was to examine weekly reports on UK stocks, supply and consumption of oil, it also considered the oil position overseas (the Middle East, East and West Africa, the Far East, Gibraltar and Trinidad) and empire tanker requirements. It was essential that the maximum number of tankers should be available and the most efficient use be made of every ton of tankage. The committee examined the protection of oil refineries at Abadan, Haifa and Suez; oil installations in the Caribbean (Trinidad, Jamaica, Curaçao and Aruba); and tanks in Ceylon, East and West Africa, the Middle East and Singapore. Other matters discussed included the disposal of surplus products arising from the production of 100 octane fuel and gas oil in Trinidad, the erection of additional black oil tankage at Mombasa and Suva (Fiji) and security measures at Curaçao and Aruba.

CAB 77/1-9

Oil Control Board: Sub-Committee on Supplies (OCB(S))

22 Dec 1939 - 19 Feb 1940

Meetings: 3

Papers: 5

Subjects: oil

Chairman: 1939 Dec - 1940 Feb: A Hudson, Admiralty

Secretary: 1939 Dec - 1940 Feb: F J Coleman, Mines Department

The sub-committee assembled information on the oil requirements of the dominions, the colonies and France, etc, and related it to shipping facilities. In view of the lack of tanker

tonnage required to cope with this demand it was clear that rationing might become necessary. The memoranda did not mention specific territories, but rather viewed colonial consumption and requirements as a whole.

CAB 77/10-11

Opium Policy Committee (OP)

30 May 1927

Meetings: 1

Papers: 4

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1927 May: Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

Secretary: 1927 May: K R Johnstone, Foreign Office

The committee was set up to discuss outstanding questions affecting the British government's opium policy. Britain had signed an international agreement (the Geneva Agreement 1925) to eventually suppress opium smoking in its colonial territories. However, opium consumption had increased in Malaya and there was concern that not enough was being done to control it.

See also CO 825/2/8.

CAB 27/344

Oversea Defence Committee (ODC)

22 Sept 1939 - 6 May 1942

Meetings: 18

Papers: 134

Subjects: defence

Chairmen: 1939 Sept - 1941 Sept: J E Shuckburgh, Colonial Office

1939 Oct - 1942 Mar: C Parkinson, Colonial Office

1940 Feb - May: G Gater, Colonial Office

Secretaries: 1939 Sept - 1941 July: E I C Jacob, no details

1941 Aug: J A Calder, Colonial Office

Originally established as the Committee of Imperial Defence Oversea Defence Committee (qv), the Oversea Defence Committee continued as a War Cabinet committee when the CID went into abeyance at the outbreak of the war. Its functions remained unchanged except that it did not deal with territorial questions where control had been transferred to a service department, and it did not carry out detailed examinations of local forces or defence schemes.

CAB 94/1-4

Overseas Information Services (Ministerial) Committee (OI)

8 May 1946 - 21 Jan 1948

Meetings: 5

Papers: 27

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1946 Apr - 1948 Jan: H Morrison, Lord President's Office

Secretaries: 1946 Apr - 1947 May: J A R Pimlott, Lord President's Office

1946 July - 1947 May: H C Bowen, Foreign Office

1946 Nov - 1948 Jan: Hon A Gore, Central Office of Information

1948 Jan: T A G Charlton, War Office

1948 Jan: D Stephens, Treasury

While concerned with the reorganization of the government's information and publicity services, including the Central Office of Information, the committee's primary interest was the way in which Britain, the Commonwealth and the empire were publicized in foreign countries. In this context it considered how such publicity could affect British economic planning and looked at a note on colonial development publicity.

See also Committee on Oversea Information Services (Ministerial); Overseas Information Services (Official) Committee; Official Committee on Oversea Information Services; and Section 8.3.2: Overseas Information Services Official Committee.

CAB 134/543

Overseas Information Services (Official) Committee (OI(O))

7 May 1946 - 29 Apr 1949

Meetings: 13

Papers: 79

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairmen: 1946 May: Sir E Bamford, director general of Central Office of Information

1946 June: H McNeil, parliamentary under-secretary of state for foreign affairs

1946 July: R Frazer, director general of the Central Office of Information

1946 Oct - 1949 Feb: Major C P Mayhew, parliamentary under-secretary of state for foreign affairs

Secretaries: 1946 May - 1949 Feb: P H Boon, Office of the Lord President of the Council

1946 May - July: G Kirk, Central Office of Information

1946 Oct - 1948 June: A K Gore, Central Office of Information

1948 July - 1949 Feb: Miss M Gobel, Central Office of Information

The committee was concerned with protecting Britain's image in the Commonwealth and the colonies and was particularly interested in broadcasting. It examined post-war reduction in broadcasting services overseas, food information policy, the erection and maintenance of a broadcasting station at Singapore and publicity abroad about the colonies. Individual territories were seldom mentioned.

See also Committee on Oversea Information Services (Ministerial); Official Committee on Oversea Information Services; and Overseas Information Services (Ministerial) Committee.

See CO 537/1907 Correspondence.

CAB 134/544-547

Overseas Mails Committee (OM)

18 Feb 1941 - 27 Dec 1944

Meetings: 15

Papers: 112

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairmen: 1941 Feb - Dec: Lord Moyne, secretary of state for the colonies

1942 May: Lord Cranborne, secretary of state for the colonies

1943 Feb - May: O Stanley, secretary of state for the colonies

1943 Sept: A D Cooper, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

1944 Mar - Dec: E Brown, chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

Secretaries: 1942 Feb - Dec: Mrs E M Arnott, General Post Office

1941 Mar - Dec: E P Donaldson, Burma Office

1941 Oct - 1942 May: H Everett, Charity Commission

1942 May - 1944 Dec: E P Bell, Post Office

1943 Feb - May: A J D Winniffrith, Treasury and War Cabinet

The committee dealt with policy questions, excluding censorship, regarding the conveyance of overseas mail in time of war. Its first task was to devise measures to improve mail services to the Middle East, and it then looked at the overall mails system. For example, the existing aircraft capacity for troops' mail was reviewed and it was suggested that it be increased. Especially towards the end of the war, the committee was concerned with improved mail facilities for the forces in the Far East. These questions were examined in 1947 in the light of threatened reductions in the transport command. The committee did not meet after December 1944 and was dissolved on 16 October 1947.

CAB 76/17-18; CAB 134/551

Overseas Mails Committee: Overseas Mails Sub-Committee (OM(SC))

6 May 1943 - 8 Jan 1947

Meetings: 42

Papers: 429

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairmen: 1943 May - 1944 Apr: R J R Measham, General Post Office

1944 May - 1946 Nov: R A Little, General Post Office

1944 Aug: J E Yates, General Post Office

1944 Sept - 1947 Jan: W H Weightman, General Post Office

Secretaries: 1943 May - Oct: N L B Parker, no details

1943 May - 1947 Jan: W H Brown, General Post Office

1946 Feb - July: Captain C G Neeves, RN Post Office

1946 Nov - 1947 Jan: C H A Harper, RN Ministry of Defence

The sub-committee reviewed the arrangements for postal communication with HM Forces overseas and suggested improvements. It examined general aspects, such as mail routes from the UK to various forces overseas, for instance in West Africa and the Middle East. It also considered specific aspects such as the new airgraph services from Gibraltar to Australia, New Zealand and India. It studied tabulated details of mails despatched and reports on departmental mail services in order to establish the efficiency of the system.

CAB 76/19-21; CAB 134/552-554

Overseas Negotiations Committee (ON)

1 Jan 1948 - 19 Nov 1957

Meetings: 643

Papers: 2123

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1948 Jan - 1949 Oct: T R Rowan, Treasury

1948 Feb - 1951 Apr: E A Hitchman, Treasury

1948 June - 1950 Feb: D H F Rickett, Treasury

1949 June - Oct: L Petch, Treasury

1950 Jan - 1952 Feb: K Anderson, Treasury

1950 June: E C Lester, Treasury

1951 Sept - 1952 Mar: E C Compton, Treasury

1952 Mar - 1953 Oct: A W France, Treasury

1952 Apr - Nov: M Dean, Treasury

1952 Apr - June: A E L Parnis, Treasury

1952 May - July: E W Playfair, Treasury

1952 Aug - Dec: E A Shillito, Treasury

1952 Sept: J A C Robertson, Treasury

1952 Dec - 1955 Nov: D Stephens, Treasury

1953 Nov - 1955 Oct: F F Turnbull, Treasury

1955 Oct - 1956 Apr: F E Figgures, Treasury

1955 Dec - 1956 Sept: P Nicholls, Treasury

1956 Nov - 1957 Apr: D McKean, Treasury

1957 Jan - Feb: G M Wilson, Treasury

1957 June - Oct: J C P Spicer, Treasury

1957 Nov: F R P Vinter, Treasury

Secretaries: 1948 Jan - Feb: Mrs J G Marsh, Board of Trade

1948 Feb - 1950 June: Mrs E J Beaven, Board of Trade

1949 May - 1950 Dec: E L Sykes, Commonwealth Relations Office

1950 Mar - July: R B Marshall, Ministry of Works

1950 Apr: P R Marshall, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

1950 July - 1952 Feb: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

1951 Mar - Dec: A Savage, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

1951 June - 1953 June: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

1951 Aug - Nov: T L Beagley, Ministry of Transport

1952 Jan - May: Mrs P J Moorhouse, no details

1952 Jan: K H Herde, no details
 1952 Feb - 1954 Jan: A Leonard, no details
 1952 May - 1953 Nov: N J P Hutchison, Home Office (Scotland)
 1952 Nov - Dec: N E Martin, Ministry of Fuel and Power
 1952 Dec - 1954 Dec: K H Cadbury, Post Office
 1955 Mar: D J Derx, Board of Trade
 1955 July - Sept: A J Collier, Treasury
 1955 Nov - 1956 Dec: M Widdup, Treasury
 1956 Apr - 1957 Nov: L Airey, Ministry of Supply

The committee continued the work of the Balance of Payments Overseas Negotiations Committee (qv) which was set up to prepare a programme for Britain's balance of payments as a whole and to advise on the general principles upon which to base trade and financial negotiations with overseas countries. Its work was closely related to and largely dependent upon the work of the Exchange Requirements Committee (qv) and the Exports Committee and it relied on information from them in order to draw up the overall programme. It examined UK trade with the Commonwealth, the sterling area and other countries, especially in Latin America and the Middle East. In the late 1940s it was primarily concerned with the allocation and procurement of scarce commodities, such as rice, and with dollar imports. Later the export of coal, especially to Singapore, and the demand for and allocations of steel, tin plate and copper to the Commonwealth and the colonies were important considerations. There was also considerable debate concerning negotiations with Japan, especially its inclusion into GATT. Throughout its existence the committee compiled statistics on export progress and economic reports on the colonial territories and the sterling area.

See also T 238; CO 537.

CAB 134/555-575, 1087-1105, 1309, 2351

Overseas Negotiations Committee Agreed Minutes (ON(AG))

[1948-1959]

Papers: 365

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

This series of papers was designed to bring together for ease of reference the texts of bilateral agreements on trade and finance. They mainly concern Europe, but some deal specifically with the dependent territories or the sterling area or make reference to them. There is, for instance, material on Ceylon, trade between Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies, the trade agreement between Japan and the sterling area and Belgian Congo imports from Hong Kong.

CAB 134/576-579, 1106-1109, 1310, 2355

Overseas Negotiations Committee: Exports Sub-Committee (ON(EX))

[1951-1957]

Papers: 151

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Following the abolition of the Committee on Exports, the sub-committee circulated notes and instructions to the production departments on the implementation of bilateral agreements. It examined the supply of goods and raw materials from the sterling area by various countries including Finland, Norway and Italy.

CAB 134/581, 1110-1113, 1311, 2361

Overseas Negotiations Committee: Monthly Report on External Finance (ON(MR))

[1947 - 1956]

Papers: 109

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

The reports on Britain's external financial position were produced by the Treasury and the Bank of England for the use of the Overseas Negotiations Committee. They consist of tables summarizing the net use of US dollars and gold, the trade deficit with the USA and other countries, sterling liabilities and sterling assets.

CAB 134/582-585, 1114, 1312

Overseas Negotiations Committee: Working Parties (ON(WP))

[1948 - 1949]

Papers: 228

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

The Overseas Negotiations Committee examined papers submitted by its various working parties, for instance the Working Party on Argentina, Working Party on Tin Plate Allocations for Exports and Working Party on Ceylon. The papers covered such subjects as sterling area trade with Japan; and allocation of exports of coal, cement, steel and caustic soda.

See MAF 83/1921-1925, 1930 for papers and correspondence of the Working Party on Tin Plate Allocation 1943-1953.

CAB 134/586-587

Overseas Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Cement (ON(WP))

[1950 - 1955]

Papers: 68

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

The working party considered monthly figures of cement exports which included amounts sent to each individual colonial territory. It was dissolved in May 1955.

See also CO 537/5494.

CAB 134/1118-1119

Overseas Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Exports of Finished Steel (GEN 215)

[1948]

Papers: 1

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

The working party considered a memorandum by the Board of Trade containing proposals for export allocations of finished steel in the second and third quarters of 1948. The report recognized the importance of increasing the amount of steel available for export to the colonies and suggested how to achieve it.

CAB 130/34

Overseas Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Palestine (GEN 205)

8 Dec 1947

Meetings: 1

Papers: 8

Subjects: Middle East; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1947 Dec: E A Hitchman, Treasury

Secretary: 1947 Dec: Mrs J G Marsh, Board of Trade

The working party looked at financial and economic questions arising from the withdrawal of British authority from Palestine. It considered the timing for Palestine to leave the sterling area, the effect this would have on the Transjordan, Palestine's importance to the British oil position and the value of imports from Palestine.

CAB 130/28

Overseas Operations (Security of Forces) Bill (GEN 331)

27 July 1950 - 3 Nov 1950

Meetings: 4

Papers: 3

Subjects: defence

Chairman: 1950 July - Nov: H Morrison, lord president of the Council

The committee examined possible alterations to the draft of the Overseas Operations (Security of Forces) Bill, which was primarily concerned with military operations overseas. While it felt that the Sabotage Law was generally adequate, it was concerned that it did not include measures against communist agitators hindering essential operations. It would have liked to add such measures, but did not believe public opinion would allow it. It also discussed legal action against unofficial strikes. The bill could be extended to any dependent territory as

defined by the British Nationality Act 1948.

CAB 130/63

Overseas Reconstruction Committee (ORC)

11 July 1945 - 14 Apr 1949

Meetings: 36

Papers: 222

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairmen: 1945 July: A Eden, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1945 July: Sir John Anderson, chancellor of the Exchequer

1945 Aug - 1948 July: E Bevin, secretary of state for foreign affairs

1946 Feb: Sir S Cripps, president of the Board of Trade

1946 June - 1947 June: C R Attlee, prime minister

1946 July: H Dalton, chancellor of the Exchequer

1948 Nov - 1949 Apr: Viscount Addison, lord privy seal

Secretaries: 1945 July - Aug: Sir G Laithwaite, Commonwealth Relations Office

1945 July - 1946 May: E I C Jacob, no details

1945 July - Aug: Wing Commander W F Lamb, Air Ministry

1945 Oct - 1946 July: Major J A M Phillips, no details

1946 June - 1947 Feb: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

1947 Feb: R Morrison, no details

Replacing the Armistice and Post-War Committee (qv), the Overseas Reconstruction Committee considered policy questions relating to liberated ex-enemy countries in Europe and the Far East, excluding supply questions. Its main concerns were Germany and Japan. It discussed the future of Italian colonies and Italian Mediterranean islands; the allocation of rice in the Far East, including Malaya, North Borneo and Hong Kong; and future policy in Cyrenaica.

CAB 134/594-601 (see also CAB 134/602-603)

Overseas Reconstruction Committee: Supplies Sub-Committee (ORC(S))

14 Nov 1945

Meetings: 1

Papers: 8

Subjects: civil supply

Chairman: 1945 Nov: Sir S Cripps, president of the Board of Trade

Secretary: 1945 Nov: Mrs K H Munro, Board of Trade

The sub-committee considered questions about supplies to and from liberated and conquered territories, including priorities for British liberated territories in the Far East.

CAB 134/603

Pacific War Council (PWC)

10 Feb 1942 - 4 Aug 1943

Meetings: 14

Papers: 13

Subjects: defence; Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1942 Feb - 1943 Aug: W S Churchill, prime minister

1942 Feb - Apr: C R Attlee, deputy prime minister/secretary of state for dominions affairs

The purpose of the War Council was to review the broad fundamental policies to be followed in the war against Japan. It examined the strategic boundaries in the Far East and the shipping situation.

CAB 99/26

Palestine - Brussels Treaty: Military Conversations (GEN 230)

27 Apr 1948

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1948 Apr: C R Attlee, prime minister

Secretary: 1948 Apr: S E V Luke, Colonial Office

The committee discussed telegrams received from the high commissioner for Palestine and the commanders-in-chief, Middle East about the evacuation of Jerusalem and the termination of the mandate. The high commissioner was concerned about the threat of the incursion of armed forces from outside and the growing anti-British feeling amongst Arabs in Palestine. It urged terminating the mandate ten days earlier than planned, but the suggestion was rejected. There was a brief discussion on the military conversations between the defence ministers of the signatories of the Brussels Treaty due to begin in London on 30 April.

CAB 130/37

Palestine Combined Study of Report of Anglo-American Committee (P)

17 June 1946 - 26 July 1946

Meetings: 13

Papers: 36

Subjects: Middle East

The committee, consisting of British and American Delegations, was set up to ascertain how the recommendations of the Anglo-American Committee on Palestine could be put into effect and to examine their implications. The US delegation was primarily concerned with the physical implication of the settlement of 100,000 Jews in Palestine. The questions of trusteeship and government of Palestine were also considered.

CAB 133/83

Palestine Combined Study of Report of Anglo-American Committee: British Delegation Meeting (PB)

13 June 1946 - 5 July 1946

Meetings: 5

Papers: 19

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1946 June - July: N Brook, Cabinet Office

The committee discussed the procedure to be adopted during the forthcoming Anglo-American conversations. Its main concern was how to finance, settle and house the proposed Jewish immigrants. The Colonial Office submitted recommendations, including a method of selecting immigrants and the materials needed for the housing plan. Finally the Arabs' and the Jews' objections to the Anglo-American Committee's report were examined.

CAB 133/84

Palestine Committee (PC)

1 May 1930

Meetings: 1

Papers: 6

Subjects: Middle East

Chairman: 1930 May: Lord Passfield, secretary of state for dominions affairs and for the colonies

Secretary: 1930 May: H Beckett, Colonial Office

The committee examined the difficult questions arising from Britain's position in Palestine. Following disturbances in Palestine a Palestinian Arab delegation had been invited to London. Its demands included abandonment of the Balfour Declaration, discontinuation of Jewish immigration, prohibition of further sale of land to Jews and establishment of a national democratic government in Palestine. In examining these demands the committee emphasized the importance of the land question.

See also AIR 8/113.

CAB 27/423

Parliamentary Control of Orders Relating to Colonial Constitutions (GEN 109)

14 Dec 1945 - 25 Jan 1946

Meetings: 2

Papers: 1

Subjects: constitutional development

Chairman: 1945 Dec - 1946 Jan: H Morrison, Lord President's Office

Secretary: 1945 Dec - 1946 Jan: C G Eastwood, Colonial Office

The committee considered a Colonial Office report on the advantages and disadvantages of subjecting orders relating to colonial institutions to parliamentary control. It explored various questions such as the effect this would have in cases where constitutional change was effected by prerogative order or letters patent or in special statutory cases, for instance the Pacific Islands, Jamaica, St Vincent and Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago, St Helena and Dominica.

CAB 130/8

Preparations for Meetings of Commonwealth Officials on Economic Affairs in Colombo, January 1950 (GEN 305)

15 Nov 1949 - 29 Dec 1949

Meetings: 6

Papers: 33

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1949 Nov - Dec: H Wilson Smith, Treasury

1949 Nov - Dec: M T Flett, Treasury

Secretary: 1949 Nov - Dec: E L Sykes, Colonial Office

The committee considered general economic matters likely to be raised in the discussions and examined reports on sterling area and dollar balance of payments with tables showing UK dollar and gold deficit and sterling area trade arrangements with Japan. It also examined a Treasury study of Ceylon's trade, country studies including Southern Rhodesia's economy, the question of financial help for Burma as a key food supplier in South-East Asia and proposals for an international clearing house for primary commodities (tin, rubber, sugar and wool).

CAB 130/57

Principal Administrative Officers Committee: Joint Movement and Transportation Committee

See Chiefs of Staff Committee: Principal Administrative Officers Committee: Joint Movement and Transportation Committee.

Programmes Committee (P)

8 June 1948 - 17 Oct 1951

Meetings: 151

Papers: 312

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1948 June - 1951 Oct: R W B Clarke, Treasury

1948 July - 1949 Jan: M T Flett, Treasury

1948 Nov - 1949 Aug: T L Rowan, Treasury

1949 June - Aug: A C Sparks, Treasury

1951 Apr: D B Pitblado, Central Economic Planning Staff

Secretaries: 1948 June - Oct: G H Van Loo, Treasury

1949 Mar - 1950 July: M M Du Merton, Foreign Office

1950 Mar - July: R B Marshall, Ministry of Works
 1950 June: Miss E J Beaven, Board of Trade
 1950 Oct - 1951 Oct: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance
 1951 June - Oct: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office
 1951 July - Oct: R Gedling, Ministry of Health
 1951 Oct: A Savage, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

The committee collated all programmes on production, consumption, imports, exports and balance of payments which were submitted to the OEEC. It advised the Treasury on authorizations for foreign exchange expenditure and carried out the functions of the former Exchange Requirements Committee (qv) in relation to bilateral negotiations conducted by the Overseas Negotiations Committee (qv). Previous economic programmes had been designed in response to world shortages, rising prices and a sellers' market; now they were readjusted to take account of the falling US prices, the availability of increased supplies and the move towards a buyers' market. The committee emphasized improving the dollar balance of payments by reducing imports from the USA and dollar areas. It analysed information on economic matters, including tabulated data on import programmes for the UK and the territories from dollar and non-dollar areas, gold and dollar balance of payments and price trends of important commodities, for instance West African cocoa. It also examined the development of the territories through rehabilitation and development schemes, such as the East African Groundnut Scheme, and it considered an increased supply of capital goods to the colonies.

See also PREM 8/769; T 229.

CAB 134/608

Programmes Committee: Statistical Group 1952 Programme (GEN 381)

25 Sept 1951 - 1 Oct 1951 Meetings: 7 Papers: 7

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1951 Sept-Oct: C T Saunders, Central Statistical Office, Cabinet Office

1951 Oct: D A V Allen, Central Economic Planning Staff, Treasury

Secretary: 1951 Sept: R Gedling, Ministry of Health

The Statistical Group examined data on the UK import programme for 1952, including tables on the sterling area. Some of the raw materials and foodstuffs covered were of colonial origin, for instance cocoa and copper.

CAB 130/71

Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Country Import Programmes (P(CIP))

5 Aug 1948 - 8 June 1950 Meetings: 38 Papers: 103

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1948 Aug - 1949 Jan: M T Flett, Treasury

1948 Aug - Sept: H A C Gill, Treasury

1949 Feb - 1950 June: A C Sparks, Treasury

1950 Mar - May: J E Lucas, Treasury

Secretaries: 1948 Aug - 1949 Apr: H A G Gill, Treasury

1948 Sept: Miss E J Beaven, Board of Trade

1949 May - 1950 Jan: L Bielinky, Treasury

1949 June - 1950 June: J E Lucas, Treasury

1950 Mar - May: Miss M I Reid, Treasury

The sub-committee carried out a detailed examination of import programmes country by country and took over the functions of the former Exchange Requirements Committee (qv) in relation to bilateral negotiations conducted by the Overseas Negotiations Committee (qv). It was primarily concerned with Europe, but also examined import programmes within the sterling area, for instance for the Sudan, Palestine, Iraq, Malaya.

CAB 134/627-629

Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Food (P(F))

11 Nov 1948 - 20 June 1951

Meetings: 9

Papers: 7

Subjects: foodstuffs

Chairmen: 1948 Oct: M T Flett, Treasury

1949 Mar - 1951 June: A C Sparks, Treasury

Secretaries: 1948 Oct - 1949 Apr: H A C Gill, Treasury

1951 June: J E Lucas, Treasury

The committee considered the supply and consumption of food imported to the sterling area, particularly sugar, wheat and flour. The individual territories' requirements were set out briefly, and the committee looked at the possibility of diverting colonial food products to hard currency markets, for instance West African bananas to Belgium and West Indian bananas to Canada.

CAB 134/630-631

Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Raw Materials (P(RM))

28 July 1948 - 17 Jan 1951

Meetings: 20

Papers: 82

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1949 July - Nov: M T Flett, Treasury

1949 Feb - 1951 Jan: A C Sparks, Treasury

1950 Feb: J E Lucas, Treasury
 Secretaries: 1948 Oct: Miss M S Wolfson, Treasury
 1948 Nov - 1949 May: H A C Gill, Treasury
 1949 Sept: L Bielinky, Treasury
 1949 Nov - 1951 Jan: J E Lucas, Treasury
 1950 Feb: D A Lovelock, no details

The sub-committee took over the functions of the Exchange Requirements Committee: Sub-Committee on Raw Materials (qv). It scrutinized and approved programmes involving expenditure from public funds on raw materials imported upon public account and examined import programmes on private account where the chairman of the Import Licensing Committee agreed that the sub-committee was the appropriate body to do so. Many of its considerations included purchases from the colonies. The Cotton Purchasing Programme, involving purchases from East and West Africa, the Sudan and the West Indies, received particular attention. The committee also dealt with more specialized raw material purchases, for instance tropical hardwoods from the West Indies.

See also Raw Materials Committee.

CAB 134/632-634

Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Review of Import Policy (P(R))

29 May 1953 - 12 June 1953 Meetings: 3 Papers: 13

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1953 May - June: R W B Clarke, Treasury
 Secretary: 1953 May - June: P L Brock, Ministry of Civil Aviation

The sub-committee was set up to examine how import programmes would have to be adjusted in the event of a recession in the USA. There were scattered references to the Commonwealth and colonies and to materials of unstated colonial origin. The possibility of reducing imports from the dollar area and the effects on prices of sterling area raw materials were considered. In some cases the ability to switch to non-dollar areas was related to the capacity of the Commonwealth or colonies to increase supplies.

See also Programmes Committee: Working Party on the Effects of a United States Recession.
CAB 134/1135

Programmes Committee: Working Party on the Effects of a United States Recession (P(WP))

18 Jan 1954 - 27 Jan 1954 Meetings: 3 Papers: 11

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1954 Jan: A W France, Treasury
Secretaries: 1954 Jan: A K Rawlinson, Treasury
1954 Jan: J A Hudson, no details

The working party attempted to assess the effects of a US recession on UK exports, taking into account the decline in US demand, the resulting fall in incomes in the rest of the sterling area and the probability of intensified competition. This information was then used to assess possible changes in the volume of UK imports. For instance, the working party considered the effect on UK oil forecasts, Board of Trade import programmes and sterling area exports to the dollar area.

See also Economic Planning Board; and Programmes Committee: Sub-Committee on Review of Import Policy.

CAB 134/1137

Proposed Agreement between the Anglo-Persian Oil Company and the Asiatic Petroleum Company (TS/T/10&12)

16 Feb 1928 - 20 Nov 1928

Meetings: 2

Papers: 2

Subjects: Middle East; oil

Chairman: 1928 Feb - Nov: S Baldwin, prime minister
Secretaries: 1928 Feb - Nov: M P A Hankey, Committee of Imperial Defence
1928 Feb: C P Hermon-Hodge, Committee of Imperial Defence
1928 Feb: L E H Maund, Committee of Imperial Defence

The committee discussed the proposed agreement between the Anglo-Persian Oil Company and the Asiatic Petroleum Company. The proposed amalgamation would operate over an area including Egypt, East Africa, Southern Africa, Mauritius and Ceylon. There was concern that the agreement might have political repercussions in Iraq.

CAB 27/368

Proposed Colonial Declaration (GEN 32)

13 Apr 1944

Meetings: 1

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairman: 1944 Apr: C R Attlee, lord president of the Council

With the need to justify the annexation of Japanese islands in the Pacific, the USA favoured some kind of colonial declaration emphasizing the promotion of the material well-being of dependent peoples and of self-government. The committee was wary of a joint declaration but

felt that the machinery should be established to help promote good colonial administration.

CAB 78/20

Railway and Port Development in the Middle East and Persia (MISC 4)

3 Sept 1941

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: Middle East; transportation

Chairman: 1941 Sept: W S Churchill, prime minister and minister of defence

The committee examined a memorandum by the chief of the Imperial General Staff on railway and port development in the Middle East and Persia. It considered the development of the Trans-Persian Railway, an important factor in support of the Russian resistance. Various Middle East projects were discussed such as the Haifa-Rayak link connecting the Egyptian and Palestinian railways with the Iraq and Syrian system. The completion of these projects was seen as urgent.

CAB 78/1

Raw Materials Committee (RM)

31 Oct 1950 - 28 Nov 1951

Meetings: 79

Papers: 219

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1950 Oct - 1951 June: F F Turnbull, Central Economic Planning Staff (Cabinet Office)

1950 Dec - 1951 Jan: W Strath, Central Economic Planning Staff (Cabinet Office)

1951 Jan-Apr: G M Wilson, Central Economic Planning Staff (Cabinet Office)

1951 Jan-Apr: E A Shillito, Central Economic Planning Staff (Cabinet Office)

1951 June-Nov: E F Muir, Lord Privy Seal's Office

1951 July-Oct: R F Bretherton, Ministry of Materials

Secretaries: 1950 Oct - 1951 Nov: R S Buer, Ministry of Food

1950 Oct-Dec: E Jones, Ministry of National Insurance

1951 Jan-Sept: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

1951 Feb: P G Oates, Ministry of Transport

1951 Apr-July: K W S MacKenzie, no details

1951 Aug-Nov: M P Lam, Board of Trade

1951 Nov: R Colegate, Board of Trade

The committee advised the Economic Steering Committee (qv) on the measures required to ensure adequate supplies of imported food and raw materials for current needs and for stockpiling in the UK and the USA. It also directed and co-ordinated instructions to UK representatives in international discussions on this subject. It gave some attention to the dependent territories as world producers of various commodities, especially tin and rubber. In

addition, it examined a new copper mine in Northern Rhodesia, the development of cotton production in the colonies, the loss of export trade in the sterling area, Commonwealth countries as suppliers of raw materials and co-ordinated commonwealth stockpiling.

See also Exchange Requirements Committee: Sub-Committee on Raw Materials.

CAB 134/658-664

Raw Materials Committee: Daily Press Summary (RM(PS))

[1951]

Papers: 12

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

The Information Division of the Treasury prepared a daily summary of press reports and comments relating to raw materials for the lord privy seal. These summaries were circulated to members of the Raw Materials Committee as a temporary arrangement while the new Raw Materials Organization was being established. They comprised abstracts of reports in newspapers from various countries, especially America and Britain, and were primarily statistical. Most of the information was at a general level and only rarely referred to individual countries or territories.

CAB 134/663

Reconstruction Committee: Ministerial Sub-Committee on Industrial Problems (Export Questions) (R(IE))

14 Sept 1944 - 14 May 1945

Meetings: 6

Papers: 18

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1944 Sept - 1945 May: Lord Woolton, minister of reconstruction

Secretaries: 1944 Sept - Dec: J Jenkes, Ministry of Reconstruction

1944 Sept - 1945 May: G Parker, Board of Trade

1944 Sept - Dec: A M Seed, HM Customs and Excise

1945 Apr - May: M T Flett, Treasury

The sub-committee considered means of promoting Britain's post-war export trade. It was not directly concerned with the colonies but its work was relevant to the empire as a whole. For example, the UK had a financial commitment to provide goods to UNRRA, most of which were to come from UK and colonial sources. There was also a UK plan to support industrial expansion, especially in India but also in the colonies, in order that they should look to the UK for spares, replacements and equipment in the future. The sub-committee ceased to function in June 1945 and was reconstituted as a sub-committee of the Home Affairs Committee (qv).

CAB 87/14-15, 17-18; CAB 124/346, 486

Report by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff on his Visit to Africa (GEN 210)

9 Jan 1948

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Africa; colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairman: 1948 Jan: C R Attlee, prime minister

Secretaries: 1948 Jan: S E V Luke, Colonial Office

1948 Jan: T A G Charlton, War Office

The committee examined the report along with a memorandum by the secretary of state for the colonies commenting on its emphasis on developing the colonies. The need for a plan to develop the colonial empire which would describe the needs of individual territories was stressed.

CAB 130/31

Resettlement of Refugees (GEN 319)

25 Apr 1950 - 26 July 1950

Meetings: 2

Papers: 1

Subjects: migration

Chairman: 1950 Apr - July: J Chuter Ede, Home Office

Secretary: 1950 Apr - July: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

The committee was concerned with steps to be taken in anticipation of the winding up of the International Refugee Organization. It examined the action taken by other countries, such as the USA, regarding the resettlement of refugees. In contrast to the self-governing commonwealth countries it was felt that the colonies, especially in East Africa, had done little to help with the refugee situation. The problem of the Poles sent to East Africa during the war was considered to be of prime importance and proposals were put forward for their settlement.

See also Section 9.2.2: International Refugee Organization.

CAB 130/59

Resident Minister in West Africa (WA(RM)43)

[1943]

Papers: 8

Subjects: Africa

The office of the resident minister in West Africa was linked to Cabinet through the Africa Committee (qv). Although there were no formal meetings, these papers were circulated by the Cabinet Office and relate to meetings attended by the resident minister, Lord Swinton, on his visit to London. They include meetings with the minister of production, concerning targets for

mineral production in West Africa, for instance manganese, iron ore and wolfram; with the president of the Board of Trade, emphasizing the need for piece goods in West Africa; and with the Colonial Office, about the appointment of American representatives at Accra and the establishment of a West African supply council. On the way to London the resident minister had stopped in the Gambia to meet a representative of the USA concerning cocoa buying policy in French West Africa.

CAB 95/12

Rice (Official) Committee (R)

13 Aug 1954 - 25 Oct 1955

Meetings: 20

Papers: 35

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; raw materials/industrial products

Chairmen: 1954 Aug - 1955 Oct: W M Clyde, Foreign Office

1954 Oct: A D Wilson, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1954 Aug - 1955 Jan: R E L Johnstone, Foreign Office

1954 Aug - 1955 May: D A Scott, Commonwealth Relations Office

1955 Mar - Sept: J Littlewood, no details

1955 Mar: A Leavett, Foreign Office

1955 Sept - Oct: H J Bowe, Foreign Office

1955 Sept - Oct: R L Briggs, Ministry of Health

Established to keep the rice situation in South-East Asia under review and to make recommendations on policy, the committee continued the work of the Far East (Official) Committee: Rice Sub-Committee (qv). It considered the strategic stockpiling of rice in Hong Kong, Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo and Sarawak. It also examined amendments to the constitution of the International Rice Commission, negotiations with the governments of Siam and Burma for the purchase of rice for British territories in South-East Asia, food supplies for Malaya and Borneo in war and rice production and development plans in Ceylon. Its memoranda include a report of W M Clyde's visit to South-East Asia. The committee was dissolved on 2 November 1955 and thereafter questions on the rice situation were settled by normal consultation between departments.

CAB 134/1152

Rice Shortage of World Supplies (GEN 107)

15 Dec 1945

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: foodstuffs

Chairman: 1945 Dec: N Brook, Cabinet Office

The committee examined the short world supply of rice and the importance of urging Burma to

release a large proportion of its rice stocks for export.

CAB 130/8

Security in Cyprus (GEN 503)

1 Sept 1955

Meetings: 1

Subjects: defence, Middle East

Chairman: 1955 Sept: A Eden, prime minister

Secretary: 1955 Sept: N Brownjohn, Ministry of Defence and Cabinet Office

The committee met once to consider the points raised in telegrams from the British Defence Co-ordinating Committee Middle East to the chiefs of staff. The security of Cyprus was crucial to Middle East defence, as the Joint Services Headquarters had been established there after the beginning of the withdrawal from Egypt in 1954. Proposals for improving security were examined, for instance, the possibility of using forces from Hong Kong and police from Kenya.

CAB 130/111

Shipping Committee (SC)

14 May 1942 - 15 Mar 1945

Meetings: 79

Papers: 334

Subjects: transportation

Chairmen: 1942 May - 1945 Mar: H Johnstone, Department of Overseas Trade

1943 July: C Hurlcomb, Ministry of War Transport

1945 Mar: H Broadley, Ministry of Food

Secretaries: 1942 May - 1945 Mar: H S Mance, Ministry of War Transport

1943 Jan - 1944 Apr: P Allen, Home Office

1944 May - Sept: G G Phillips, War Damage Commission

1944 Oct - 1945 Mar: M T Flett, Treasury

The committee was set up to keep the shipping situation under review. It made forecasts of the available shipping capacity and settled interdepartmental questions involving the use of shipping. It reported on the uncertain shipping situation caused by military movements in the Middle and Far East which had strained the availability of shipping tonnage to most destinations. It also examined suggestions from various departments on how to relieve the pressure on shipping, such as by examining air and land routes between West Africa and the Middle East and reducing UK imports, including those originating in colonial territories. In addition, it examined the territories' import requirements in order to establish the shipping capacity required.

CAB 97/1-5

Shipping Committee: Adjustment Board (SC(A))

[1942 - 1945]

Papers: 44

Subjects: transportation

The board considered memoranda and minutes of meetings of the Combined Adjustment Board (Washington and London) which were circulated by the joint secretaries. These mainly concerned tonnage requirements and cargo availability, especially to the Middle East.

CAB 97/6

Shipping Committee: Shipping (Operational) Committee (SC(O))

[1942 - 1945]

Papers: 17

Subjects: transportation

The sub-committee was concerned with shipping requirements for exports, such as military vehicles and stores for West and East Africa, and imports to the UK.

CAB 97/6

Shipping Committee: Sub-Committee on the Availability of Cargoes (SC(AC))

7 July 1943 - 23 Nov 1943

Meetings: 9

Papers: 15

Subjects: civil supply, transportation

Chairman: 1943 July - Nov: L Robbins, War Cabinet Office

Secretaries: 1943 July - Nov: P Allen, Home Office

1943 July - Nov: H S Mance, Ministry of War Transport

The sub-committee looked at the availability of cargoes of various commodities, especially foodstuffs, and at the loading programme in British territories and elsewhere, which were likely to affect UK imports. For instance, it considered the availability of coffee in East Africa, which supplied much of Britain's coffee. The sub-committee also considered the allocation of tanker tonnage for raw materials such as manganese ore, bauxite and cotton from West Africa.

CAB 97/6

Shipping Problems (SEP/14/4)

4 Mar 1940 - 4 Apr 1940

Meetings: 5

Papers: 10

Subjects: transportation

Chairman: 1940 Mar - Apr: H Wilson, Treasury

It was felt that one of the most effective ways of alleviating the strained shipping situation was to reduce imports, thereby reducing tonnage requirements. The committee asked the Ministries of Supply, Food and Agriculture and Fisheries to investigate what effect a ten per cent reduction in imports would have on the UK. Their reports examined commodities individually, including many of colonial origin, such as cocoa from West Africa.

CAB 97/8

South-East Asia (GEN 463)

12 Apr 1954

Meetings: 1

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia

Chairman: 1954 Apr: W S Churchill, prime minister

The committee met to consider discussions with the US secretary of state concerning Indo-China and to approve amendments to a draft joint communiqué. The UK wanted the USA to accept a commitment for the defence of Malaya and Hong Kong.

CAB 130/101

South-East Asia Command, Public Relations Matters, London Committee (GEN 30)

20 Jan 1944 - 15 Apr 1944

Meetings: 3

Papers: 5

Subjects: defence, Far East/South-East Asia

Chairmen: 1944 Jan: R Peck, Air Ministry

1944 Feb - Apr: F Williams, Ministry of Information

Secretaries: 1944: J E B Barton, Rear Link Headquarters

1944 Jan: R M J Harris, Rear Link Headquarters

1944 Jan - Feb: R S Falk, Rear Link Headquarters

The committee dealt with public relations questions relating to the South-East Asia Command which either raised issues of a general inter-service nature or did not come under a single department. It discussed press and photographic coverage of the command.

CAB 78/20

Special Civil Aviation Committee (GEN 47)

6 Nov 1944 - 18 Dec 1944

Meetings: 13

Papers: 9

Subjects: transportation

Chairman: 1944 Nov - Dec: Lord Beaverbrook, lord privy seal

Secretary: 1944 Nov - Dec: P G Masefield, lord privy seal

The committee was concerned with international civil aviation, particularly air transport, the allocation of frequencies on civil air routes and the five 'freedoms of the air'. The first four had already been agreed in principle, but the 'fifth freedom', 'the right to convey passengers, mails and freights between two countries neither being the aircraft's own country of origin', was examined in detail as it was proposed that all major countries and the colonies should accept it. A memorandum explaining this was sent to Ceylon, Bermuda, Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados and Fiji.

CAB 78/28

Special Committee on Oil (GEN 38)

6 June 1944 - 2 Feb 1945

Meetings: 7

Papers: 21

Subjects: oil

Chairman: 1944 June - 1945 Feb: J Anderson, chancellor of the Exchequer

The committee re-examined the draft memorandum of understanding which resulted from official negotiations on oil in Washington between UK and US delegations and considered the level of future discussions with the US government. The purpose of the memorandum of understanding was to regulate the distribution of oil through the international market. The committee felt that the draft was one-sided and thought it necessary to ensure that Britain and the dependent territories had a right to meet home oil requirements without referring to the international market. This would place the empire on the same footing as the US internal production area. The committee also discussed military considerations and the 'open door' policy for oil in British territories.

CAB 78/22

Standing Committee on Expenditure (NE)

14 Oct 1925 - 26 Oct 1927

Meetings: 23

Papers: 61

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1925 Oct - 1927 Oct: S Baldwin, prime minister

1926 Jan: the Marquess of Salisbury, lord privy seal

1926 Mar: W S Churchill, chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretaries: 1925 Oct - 1927 Oct: A W Hurst, Treasury

1926 Jan: A F Hemming, Treasury

The committee reviewed the estimates of national expenditure with the object of making a substantial reduction of the charges on the tax payer. Its concerns were mainly domestic, but it also considered colonial expenditure. The chancellor of the Exchequer felt that the mandates and protectorates should pay their own way and a reduction in expenditure on the Middle East

services was proposed. The colonial services' total expenditure and grants in aid of local revenues as well as the costs of the Empire Marketing Board were examined.

CAB 27/303-306

Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship (SCC)

23 Oct 1939 - 17 Oct 1945

Meetings: 32

Papers: 230

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairmen: 1939 Oct-Dec: C N French, controller of post and telegraph censorship

1940 Feb-Oct: W Monckton, director general, Press and Censorship Bureau

1940 Apr - 1945 Oct: E S Herbert, joint director, postal and telegraph censorship

1942 June: H D P Frances, deputy director of postal and telegraph censorship

1945 Feb: R Reid, deputy director general postal and telegraph censorship

Secretaries: 1939 Oct-Dec: W T Stephenson, no details

1940 Feb - 1941 July: W F Todd, Postal and Telegraph Censorship Department

1941 Aug - 1944 Mar: R J Simpson, Postal and Telegraph Censorship Department

1942 June - 1945 July: R H Wethered, Postal and Telegraph Censorship

Department

1945 Aug-Oct: R E Brinsley-Richards, Home Office

The committee reviewed and reported on questions concerned with cable, radio and postal censorship. It considered censorship in the colonies, particularly the Middle East, as well as the examination of air mail at Bermuda and Trinidad. It also looked at the allied censorship network.

CAB 76/9-11

Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship: Sub-Committee on Examination of Mails at Overseas Stations (SCC(OS))

12 Feb 1940 - 26 Feb 1940

Meetings: 2

Papers: 6

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1940 Feb: E S Herbert, Ministry of Information

Secretary: 1940 Feb: W F Todd, Postal and Telegraph Censorship Department

The sub-committee prepared recommendations on the categories of mail to be dealt with at the several overseas censorship stations, most of which were in colonial territories, for instance, Hong Kong, Malaya, Dar es Salaam and Malta.

CAB 76/22

Steering Committee on International Organizations (IOC)

13 June 1946 - 6 Nov 1957

Meetings: 239

Papers: 2362

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1946 June: E L Hall-Patch, Foreign Office

1946 July - Aug: J M Troutbeck, Foreign Office

1946 Sept - 1948 Oct: H M G Jebb, Foreign Office

1948 Feb: P H Gore-Booth, Foreign Office

1948 Mar - 1950 July: E B Boothby, Foreign Office

1948 Apr - 1949 June: F B A Rundall, Foreign Office

1949 Mar: R Allen, Foreign Office

1949 Oct - 1950 Feb: Miss B Salt, Foreign Office

1950 June - 1952 May: L A Scopes, Foreign Office

1950 Nov - 1953 Mar: A A Dudley, Foreign Office

1952 Oct - 1954 Mar: J S Somers-Cocks, Foreign Office

1953 Apr - 1955 Oct: E R Warner, Foreign Office

1955 Mar: G M Warr, Foreign Office

1955 Sept - 1956 Apr: I T M Pink, Foreign Office

1956 Apr - Nov: J D Murray, Foreign Office

1957 Nov: C W D O'Neil, Foreign Office

Secretaries: 1946 June - Oct: D M Berley, Foreign Office

1946 July - 1948 Jan: P H Gore-Booth, Foreign Office

1946 July - 1947 Feb: R Morrison, Ministry of Education

1946 July - Sept: L Goodwin, Supplies

1946 Oct: E A Armstrong, Ministry of Civil Aviation

1947 June: R P Heppel, Foreign Office

1947 Oct - 1949 June: Miss B Salt, Foreign Office

1948 Feb: E B Boothby, Foreign Office

1948 July - 1949 July: C M Le Quesne, Foreign Office

1949 Oct - 1951 May: D P S Cape, Foreign Office

1950 Sept: S M Black, Foreign Office

1951 June - 1952 Oct: K S Butler, Foreign Office

1952 Oct - 1954 Oct: L J Evans, Foreign Office

1955 Sept: R L Briggs, Ministry of Health

1956 Apr - July: J Dodds, Foreign Office

1956 Jan - Nov: D J M Brenton, no details

1956 July - Nov: P D Gardner, no details

1956 Nov: Miss M Kunzle, no details

Established to co-ordinate departments in respect of their relations with the various international bodies, the committee also had a special responsibility for the British government's relations with the Social and Economic Council, the Trusteeship Council and the Security Council. It took over the work of the existing informal advisory committee on United

Nations affairs. The committee examined reports or briefs for UK representatives to meetings and assemblies of the specialized agencies of the United Nations. The reports were frequently primarily concerned with procedural matters, membership and administration, but they included synopses of debates on technical issues and other aspects of colonial policy and reports on specific regions and relevant projects. For instance, in the mid-1950s the committee considered papers on economic development of underdeveloped countries, slavery and human rights and applications from dependent territories to join the United Nations.

The committee was composed of a number of working parties which were established without clear terms of reference. The titles and references for relevant working parties are: Working Party on Human Rights, CAB 134/422-426, 973-976; Working Party on Freedom of Information, CAB 134/422-426, 973-976; Working Party on the Organization of the United Nations, CAB 134/435-436; Working Party on Social Affairs, CAB 134/430-434, 978-981; Working Party on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, CAB 134/414, 430-434, 978-981; Working Party on the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, CAB 134/418-421, 969-972, 1272; Working Party on Passport and Frontier Formalities, CAB 134/429; Working Party on Privileges and Immunities, CAB 134, 2117-2121; Working Party on Economic Commission for Latin America, CAB 134/427-428, 977, 2114-2116; Working Party on the Status of Women, CAB 134/430-434, 978-981; Working Party on Review of the UN Charter, CAB 134/968.

CAB 134/2066-2069 are closed. See also CO 537.

CAB 134/377-413, 943-967, 2062-2065, 2066-2069

Steering Committee on International Organizations: Ad Hoc Working Parties (GEN 220)

[1948 - 1950]

Papers: 26

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

The committee looked at the minutes and papers of ad hoc working parties, mainly those of the Working Party on Economic Development. The latter had considerable relevance to the colonial territories as it reviewed a brief for the UK delegation to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) session for underdeveloped countries and technical assistance for economic development. The committee examined papers on a wide range of colonial subjects, including the UK policy toward colonial development, technical training and assistance for the colonies (with a brief survey of achievements, such as technical institutes at secondary level in West Africa), scholarship schemes for technical education in the UK (with tables showing the number of students from each geographical area), UN technical assistance plans and the export of capital goods from the UK to the territories.

CAB 130/36

Sterling Area Conference (GEN 195)

19 Sept 1947 - 6 Oct 1947

Meetings: 6

Papers: 6

Subjects: international bodies and conferences; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 Sept - Oct: H Dalton, chancellor of the Exchequer

1947 Sept - Oct: W Eady, Treasury

1947 Sept: E Rowe-Dutton, Treasury

Secretaries: 1947 Sept - Oct: T A G Charlton, War Office

1947 Sept: G R Bell, Treasury

1947 Sept: M E Allen, Commonwealth Relations Office

In these official discussions between sterling area members, the participating countries recognized the importance of maintaining the strength of the sterling area as a whole and agreed that steps should be taken to revise respective net dollar expenditure and to increase dollar reserves.

CAB 130/27

Sub-Committee on the Control of Air Forces in Iraq (CAI(41))

6 Aug 1941 - 8 Aug 1941

Meetings: 2

Papers: 4

Subjects: defence; Middle East

Chairman: 1941 Aug: N H Bottomley, deputy chief of the air staff

The sub-committee considered the existing system of operational control and administration and the supply of air forces in Iraq.

CAB 95/6

Suez Canal Committee (SC(M)(44))

11 Oct 1944 - 13 Mar 1945

Meetings: 6

Papers: 12

Subjects: Middle East

Chairmen: 1944 Oct - 1945 Mar: C R Attlee, lord president of the Council

1944 Dec: R Law, minister of state

The Suez Canal was due to fall to Egyptian control in 1968. As it was vital to imperial communications, the committee was established to formulate policies on its future. It considered the contents of a convention drawn up to replace the international convention of 1888 and safeguard British use, and it discussed alternative courses of action and future administration.

CAB 95/18

Survey of War Plans in the Economic and Financial Spheres (P(E&F))

5 July 1939 - 31 Mar 1941

Meetings: 189

Papers: 270

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1939 July - 1941 Mar: Lord Stamp
1939 Oct: R Hopkins, Treasury

The committee considered how the UK could survive financially and economically through the war. To a certain extent this concerned the colonies. For example, the committee prepared a scheme for UK exchange control to take effect at the outbreak of war. The scheme was submitted to colonial governments which were required to consider to what extent and with what modifications similar schemes should be introduced locally. The supply of raw materials was of major concern and their estimated availability was examined, such as iron ore from Sierra Leone. The committee also examined the organization and work of the Department of Overseas Trade, which included an Empire Division concerned with UK business relating to empire markets. The committee's papers include a survey of economic and financial plans for which a sub-committee produced seventy-nine papers.

CAB 89/1-9

Tariff Policy on Japan (GEN 436)

5 June 1953 - 1 Dec 1953

Meetings: 3

Papers: 9

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1953 June - Dec: R A Butler, chancellor of the Exchequer
Secretaries: 1953 June - Dec: F A Bishop, Ministry of Food
1953 June - Dec: K H Cadbury, Post Office

The committee was set up to make recommendations on economic policy towards Japan, including the question of Japan's membership of GATT, which posed various problems. There was concern that certain UK and colonial markets might be lost to Japan as it would become more difficult to refuse entry of Japanese exports into the UK and colonies. However, the Colonial Office felt there were some advantages to the colonies, such as cheap imports, and cloth imports to Nigeria were given special attention. Fear was also expressed that Japanese competition could severely hinder new industries in Southern Rhodesia and Ceylon.

See also Working Party on Long Term Economic Relations with Japan.

CAB 130/87

Technical Assistance from the United States of America (19/10/125/1)

27 July 1941 - 24 Dec 1941

Meetings: 6

Papers: 22

Subjects: colonial policy, development and welfare

Chairmen: 1941 July: E Bevin, minister of labour and national service

1941 July: Lord Hankey, paymaster general

1941 Oct: O Lyttelton, minister of state

1941 Oct - Dec: E Bridges, Offices of the War Cabinet

The committee considered the extent to which UK requirements of technicians of all kinds could be met from the USA. It examined the types of technicians required, particularly by the armed forces, including military projects in the colonies, such as special fleet arm projects in Singapore and Mombasa and construction of port and shore facilities in Sierra Leone.

CAB 99/36

Tin Restriction Committee (TRC)

13 Feb 1931 - 17 Feb 1931

Meetings: 2

Subjects: raw materials/industrial products

Chairman: 1931 Feb: Lord Passfield, secretary of state for the colonies

The committee considered the necessity of imposing restrictions on tin production in view of the worsening economic situation in Malaya, which gave cause for concern. While restrictions were thought necessary, it was feared that closing mines would lead to serious unemployment. It was felt that Nigeria might also be affected by a restriction scheme.

CAB 27/447

Trade Negotiations Committee (TN)

19 Feb 1946 - 24 Oct 1947

Meetings: 13

Papers: 116

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1946 Feb - Mar: Sir P Liesching, Board of Trade

1946 Aug - 1947 Mar: J R C Helmore, Board of Trade

1947 Oct: S L Holmes, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1946 Feb - 1947 Oct: Miss M F Hardie, Board of Trade

1946 Feb - 1947 Oct: P S Young, Board of Trade

1946 May: Miss S D Wingate, Board of Trade

1947 Jan - Oct: Miss N K Fisher, Board of Trade

In 1945 the US government published proposals for the expansion of world trade and the adoption of a comprehensive code governing trade policies, which were circulated to various governments. It invited fifteen countries to participate in a preliminary meeting to establish the charter of the International Trade Organization (ITO) of the United Nations. The UN was then

to convene a world conference to implement the proposals. The Trade Negotiations Committee was concerned with preliminary work for these negotiations, which included an examination of tariff concessions and import quotas. It made scattered references to colonial territories and the commonwealth talks which were arranged before the world conference to discuss the applications of the convention within the British empire. The ITO charter was never ratified and GATT, signed in 1947, gradually assumed the commercial policy role originally assigned to the ITO and became the major international agency to deal with trade problems.

CAB 134/711-713

Trade Negotiations Committee: Sub-Committee on International Commodity Policy (TN(C))

6 Mar 1947 - 28 Oct 1947

Meetings: 2

Papers: 21

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1947 Mar: J R C Helmore, Board of Trade

1947 Oct: R Hall, Economic Section, Cabinet Office

Secretaries: 1947 Mar - Oct: D Caplan, Board of Trade

The sub-committee provided a means of ensuring that departmental action on specific commodities was consistent with the general principles of UK international commodity policy, and it assisted the Board of Trade in implementing its primary responsibility for the broader aspects of international commodity policy. It considered colonial representation at forthcoming trade negotiations and examined papers on the International Timber Conference, International Wool Study Group, International Rubber Study Group, International Tin Study Group and International Wheat Agreement.

CAB 134/714

Trade Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Non-Tariff Questions (TN(N))

20 Feb 1946 - 30 Aug 1946

Meetings: 3

Papers: 4

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1946 Feb - Aug: B J Schackle, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1946 Feb - Aug: P S Young, Board of Trade

1946 Feb - Aug: Miss M F Hardie, Board of Trade

The working party was concerned with discussing the Washington proposals (see main committee). Its primary concern was the question of voting in the proposed internal trade organization. The British advocated weighted voting as opposed to one-state-one-vote.

CAB 134/715

Trade Negotiations Committee: Working Party on Tariffs (TN(T))

22 Feb 1946 - 8 Jan 1947

Meetings: 4

Papers: 63

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1946 Feb: E A Cohen, Board of Trade

1946 Aug - 1947 Jan: S L Holmes, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1946 Feb - Dec: Miss M F Hardie, Board of Trade

1946 Dec: P S Young, Board of Trade

1947 Jan: Miss N K Fisher, Board of Trade

1947 Jan: Miss N Cracknell, no details

The working party dealt with proposed tariff concessions from negotiating countries including Ceylon, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia and Burma, for the forthcoming trade negotiations. UK requests for tariff concessions included materials and produce from the colonies.

CAB 134/716

United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture (GEN 8)

16 Mar 1943 - 26 Oct 1944

Meetings: 15

Papers: 195

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

Chairmen: 1943 Mar - 1944 Aug: N B Ronald, Foreign Office

1943 Apr: H M G Jebb, Foreign Office

1944 Oct: H Broadley, Ministry of Food

Secretaries: 1944 Mar - Aug: I Montgomery, Treasury

1944 Oct: Miss M D Bryan, no details

1943 Apr - 1944 Oct: W J Hasler, War Cabinet

The committee urged the UK delegation to emphasize the practical aims and problems of a world where people were starving. In addition to considering the immediate problem of post-war food shortages, the committee felt that improved world nutrition was essential and it examined the diets of colonial populations with this in view.

CAB 78/6-9

United States Bases Discussions (LB)

28 Jan 1941 - 19 Feb 1941

Meetings: 10

Papers: 8

Subjects: defence; West Indies

Chairmen: 1941 Jan: Viscount Cranborne, secretary of state for dominions affairs

1941 Jan - Feb: A Burns, Colonial Office

Secretaries: 1941 Jan - Feb: K O Roberts-Wray, Colonial Office

Delegations from the USA, Canada, Newfoundland, Bermuda, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the Leeward Islands were invited to discuss all aspects of the leasing of US bases on British territories in the Caribbean and Newfoundland. A revised draft British agreement was examined and proposed amendments from the various delegations were considered.

CAB 98/17

United States Fruit (GEN 504)

21 Sept 1955

Meetings: 1

Papers: 1

Subjects: foodstuffs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1955 Sept: Marquess of Reading, minister of state for foreign affairs

The committee met only once to examine the issues involved in the purchase of US fruit, including arrangements to safeguard the interests of West Indian citrus fruit producers.

CAB 130/111

Washington Continuing Consultative Committee (ABC)

16 Nov 1949 - 6 July 1950

Meetings: 15

Subjects: international bodies and conferences

The committee examined matters of economic interest to the UK and USA, including raw materials, colonial markets, sterling balances, trading arrangements, exports and imports and the general economic situation. Its meetings were informal and it had no chairman or secretariat. There were representatives from the USA, Canada and the UK.

CAB 133/1

Washington Talks (PM(W))

23 Oct 1957 - 26 Oct 1957

Meetings: 5

Papers: 9

Subjects: defence; international bodies and conferences

The prime minister and his delegation visited the USA and Canada for talks in October 1957, and the Cabinet Office prepared briefs prior to their departure. The subjects discussed included Middle East oil, Britain's arms policy in the Middle East, and Britain's main defence obligations including the defence and maintenance of order in the dependent territories. The papers include both the briefs and the record of the meetings.

CAB 133/237

Wheat Supplies (GEN 108)

19 Dec 1945 - 1 Mar 1946

Meetings: 6

Papers: 6

Subjects: foodstuffs

Chairman: 1945 Dec - 1946 Mar: N Brook, Cabinet Office

The committee was concerned with the world shortages of wheat and other cereals. An appeal was made by UNRRA for wheat to be made available to recently liberated countries, including Malaya.

CAB 130/8

Working Group on Bermuda Conference (GEN 572)

11 Feb 1957 - 6 Mar 1957

Meetings: 2

Subjects: international bodies and conferences; Middle East

The group met to consider briefs for the forthcoming Bermuda Conference between the prime minister and the president of the USA to be held in March 1957. Matters to be raised included guarantees for the Middle East pipelines, prospects of a long term Palestine settlement, settlement of the Suez Canal problem and the need to keep Soviet influence out of Africa.

CAB 130/122

Working Party on Briefs for the Commonwealth Meeting on General Economic and Trade Questions (GEN 332)

9 Aug 1950 - 12 Sept 1950

Meetings: 6

Papers: 11

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1950 Aug: E A Hitchman, Treasury

1950 Aug: K Anderson, Treasury

Secretary: 1950 Sept: R S Buer, Ministry of Food

The meeting was to examine the long term relationship between the dollar area and the sterling area and commonwealth rearmament. Other important issues on which briefs were prepared were commonwealth dollar expenditure and commercial treaties with the USA, focusing on US proposals for imperial preference and exchange control.

CAB 130/63

Working Party on Economic Prospects for 1952 (GEN 380)

5 Oct 1951 - 16 Oct 1951

Meetings: 2

Papers: 12

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1951 Oct: W Strath, Central Economic Planning Staff, Treasury

Secretaries: 1951 Oct: R Gedling, Ministry of Health

1951 Oct: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

The working party was primarily interested in the situation in the UK, but considered some matters relevant to the colonies. It was particularly concerned that UK gold and dollar accounts of the sterling area had run heavily into deficit. It also examined the amount of steel required to meet minimum colonial requirements.

CAB 130/71

Working Party on Exhibitions Overseas (GEN 386)

13 Dec 1951 - 16 Oct 1953

Meetings: 7

Papers: 13

Subjects: information services/communications

Chairman: 1951 Dec - 1953 Oct: R Frazer, Central Office of Information

Secretary: 1951 Dec - 1953 Oct: Miss A L McNamee, Board of Trade

The working party considered the existing departmental machinery for determining the extent, nature and financing of UK participation in exhibitions overseas. The Rhodes exhibition at Bulawayo was used to illustrate certain points, and other colonial cultural exhibitions were mentioned, such as book exhibitions in Fiji and East Africa.

CAB 130/72

Working Party on External Economic Policy (GEN 412)

1 July 1952

Meetings: 1

Papers: 51

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1952 July: E A Hitchman, Ministry of Materials

Secretaries: 1952 July: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

1952 July: S Abramson, Board of Trade

Much of the committee's work was in preparation for the forthcoming Commonwealth Economic Conference, the first of its kind. It made reference to the empire, but not to individual territories. It examined commonwealth development, commodity policy and imperial preference and GATT.

CAB 130/78

Working Party on Food Supplies and Communism (GEN 271)

4 Feb 1949 - 25 Mar 1949

Meetings: 3

Papers: 14

Subjects: Far East/South-East Asia; foodstuffs

Chairman: 1949 Feb - Mar: G R Oake, Ministry of Food

Secretaries: 1949 Feb: J Graham, Ministry of Food

1949 Mar: G A Haig, Ministry of Food

The working party was set up to consider the probable effect on world food supplies of the extension of communist influence and to decide whether any special action ought to be taken by Britain or other countries to prepare for such developments. Its main concern was with South-East Asia, Hong Kong and Ceylon where the danger of the spread of communism seemed greatest and where it was feared that the Soviet Union would use all economic weapons possible in the cold war. Malaya received particular attention in the light of its role as a major rice importer, its continuing rice shortages and the local communist uprising. Although a brief survey of the Middle East and Far East revealed no immediate likelihood of communist domination of the British territories, the government was still concerned about the spread of communist influence and the possible disruption of food supplies. The working party looked at a report on schemes to improve the production of foodstuffs in Ceylon and another on colonial rice production in South-East Asia, Hong Kong, Africa and the West Indies. It also examined an interim report on the Colonial Office's Colonial Primary Product Committee for 1948.

CAB 130/45**Working Party on the Guidance of Exports (GE)**

22 Jan 1947 - 9 July 1947

Meetings: 11

Papers: 30

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1947 Jan - July: H J B Lintott, Board of Trade

Secretaries: 1947 Jan - Mar: G Parker, Board of Trade

1947 Mar - July: Miss E Beavan, Board of Trade

Set up to consider possibilities of expanding UK exports to hard currency markets, the working party occasionally examined colonial markets.

CAB 134/303**Working Party on Long Term Economic Relations with Japan (GEN 326)**

26 June 1950 - 16 Jan 1951

Meetings: 8

Papers: 13

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1950 June - Dec: D B Pitblado, Central Economic Planning Staff, Treasury
 1951 Jan: J L Croome, Central Economic Planning Staff, Treasury
 Secretary: 1950 June - 1951 Jan: A K Ogilvy Webb, Treasury

The working party prepared factual information on Japan for the Overseas Negotiations Committee (qv) and collected departmental views and policies on Britain's long term economic relations with Japan. In considering the future of trade and payments arrangements between Japan and the sterling area, it emphasized the general balance of payments, competition between UK and Japanese exports, the impact of Japanese purchases of rice in Burma and Siam and of cotton and possibly other raw materials in the sterling area on UK political and economic interests and the interest of the underdeveloped countries in cheap capital goods from Japan.

See also Tariff Policy on Japan.

CAB 130/61

Working Party on Non-Dollar Balance of Payments (GEN 247)

12 Aug 1948 - 18 Aug 1948 Meetings: 2 Papers: 4

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1948 Aug: D H F Rickett, Treasury
 Secretary: 1948 Aug: W R Nield, Treasury

The working party was set up to formulate UK import and export policy towards each member of the sterling area for 1948/1949. Ultimately it did not examine policy for individual territories although Palestine, Transjordan and the Sudan were mentioned.

CAB 130/40

Working Party on the Oil Expansion Programme (GEN 295)

10 June 1949 - 6 Apr 1951 Meetings: 69 Papers: 114

Subjects: oil

Chairmen: 1949 June - 1950 Jan: W Strath, Central Economic Planning Staff, Cabinet Office
 1950 Jan - 1951 Apr: E Plowden, Central Economic Planning Staff, Cabinet Office
 1950 Feb: E A Hitchman, Treasury
 1950 June - 1951 Feb: V S Butler, Ministry of Fuel and Power
 Secretaries: 1949 June - 1950 Sept: P E Watts, Ministry of Fuel and Power
 1949 June-Sept: F R P Vinter, Treasury
 1949 Nov - 1950 Oct: A K Ogilvy-Webb, Treasury
 1950 June: D G le Butt, Ministry of Fuel and Power
 1950 Sept - 1951 Apr: A F Toms, Ministry of Fuel and Power

1951 Feb: A A Jarratt, Ministry of Fuel and Power

The working party was primarily concerned with threats to oil expansion plans due to the shortage of dollars. It examined the world oil position through reports of British overseas refineries, American oil interests in the Middle East, oil consumption figures for the UK and sterling area and sales figures for British territories. Means of improving the oil position without intensifying the dollar drain were examined, for instance the Butler Plan, which encouraged 'de-dollarizing' American sales to the sterling area, and the substitution of sterling oil for dollar oil. This latter proposal was also considered for the colonies and discussion focused on the obstacle of existing Caltex fuel contracts with East Africa and Singapore.

CAB 130/48-51

Working Party on Preparations for the Commonwealth Supply Meeting (GEN 375)

18 July 1951 - 13 Sept 1951

Meetings: 15

Papers: 51

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; raw materials/industrial products

Chairman: 1951 July - Sept: A C B Symon, Commonwealth Relations Office

Secretaries: 1951 July - Sept: M J Moynihan, Commonwealth Relations Office

1951 July - Aug: J A Atkinson, Ministry of National Insurance

1951 Aug - Sept: H G M Bass, Commonwealth Relations Office

1951 Aug: Miss J B E Haydon, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee was concerned with general preparations for the meeting of commonwealth supply ministers, to which colonial governments were invited to send observers, their views being represented by the secretary of state for the colonies. In the light of colonial governments' concern about supplies for development and the fear that shortages of raw materials could hinder world development, the committee examined the short term, long term and general raw material position. It also considered some individual raw materials. For instance, it was concerned that natural rubber prices would fall because of competition from synthetics, and that it would be necessary to stabilize prices in Malaya, North Borneo and Ceylon. It proposed the expanded production of copper, zinc and sulphur. Other significant raw materials examined were manganese (the Gold Coast), pyrites (Cyprus with possible expansion in East Africa) and cotton (Uganda and the Sudan). The committee also looked at trade movement between commonwealth countries, the UK and the colonies.

CAB 130/70

Working Party on War Potential (P)

15 June 1945 - 7 Feb 1946

Meetings: 4

Papers: 13

Subjects: defence; raw materials/industrial products

Chairman: 1945 June - 1946 Feb: J H E Woods, Ministry of Production

Secretaries: 1945 June - 1946 Feb: A N Coleridge, no details
 1946 Feb: Miss J Zinklin, no details

The working party set out to examine and report on highly specialized industries which were vital to war production, for instance optical glass and instruments and manganese chrome ferro-alloys. It made scattered reference to individual territories such as Malaya and the empire as a whole as suppliers of these raw materials. The committee was dissolved in February 1946 and thereafter questions about war potential industries were handled by the departments concerned.

CAB 134/607

Working Party on World Economic Problems (WEP)

7 Dec 1953 - 3 Nov 1954 Meetings: 17 Papers: 76

Subjects: trade, finance and economics

Chairman: 1953 Dec - 1954 Nov: C T Saunders, Central Statistical Office
 Secretaries: 1953 Dec - June: Mrs E H Botheroyd, Treasury
 1953 Dec - 1954 June: J Grieves Smith, Treasury
 1954 Oct - Nov: A C L Day, no details

The committee was concerned with developments in world trade, the course of the world economy, the effects of the US recession (for instance on Malayan rubber and tin exports) and the balance of payments in the sterling area. It produced little detailed material on the colonies, but its considerations of world trade included trends in raw materials (such as copper production in Northern Rhodesia, cotton in the Sudan and sisal in British East Africa) and foodstuffs (such as tea in Ceylon and cocoa in West Africa). It also produced reports on the economic situation in South-East Asia and the Middle East (including Iraq and the Sudan) and basic statistical tables on financial reserves and the balance of payments.

CAB 134/1187-1190

Working Party to Prepare Briefs on the General Economic Situation for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Meeting (GEN 248)

9 Aug 1948 - 30 Sept 1948 Meetings: 5 Papers: 25

Subjects: commonwealth conferences/affairs; trade, finance and economics

Chairmen: 1948 Aug - Sept: T L Rowan, Treasury
 1948 Sept: G M Wilson, Cabinet Office

The committee looked into the financial problems of the sterling area and prepared reports on economic problems of individual commonwealth countries, including a study of Ceylon.

CAB 130/40

CHAPTER 3

SUMMARIES OF RELEVANT CABINET OFFICE CLASSES

3.1 CABINET AND CABINET COMMITTEE RECORDS

Minutes

CAB 23 Cabinet Minutes to 1939, 1916 to 1939, 101 volumes

Minutes or conclusions, with indexes, of the War Cabinet and the Cabinet. See *List and Index Society*, volumes 40, 51, 61, 62, 92, 100 and 131.

CAB 65 War Cabinet Minutes, 1939 to 1945, 57 volumes

This class includes minutes of the War Cabinet, September 1939 to May 1945 (WM series) and of the Cabinet, May to July 1945 (CM series) as well as a subject index. There are also minutes of meetings of ministers who were not in the Cabinet. See *List and Index Society*, volumes 73, 74 and 140.

CAB 128 Cabinet Minutes from 1945, 1945 to 1964, 40 files, volume, microfilmed photostat volume

Memoranda

CAB 24 Cabinet Memoranda to 1939, 1915 to 1939, 288 volumes

This is the main series of papers (with indexes) circulated to the War Cabinet (GT series) and to the Cabinet (CP series). The class also contains a small series of printed papers (G War series) which was begun in 1915 and a series of reports summarizing the political and general situation abroad. The indexes to CAB 24/6-140, covering the period 1916 to 1922, are published in the *List and Index Society* volumes 29, 41, 52 and 156.

CAB 66 War Cabinet Memoranda WP and CP Series, 1939 to 1945, 67 volumes

See *List and Index Society*, volume 136.

CAB 67 War Cabinet Memoranda WP(G) Series, 1939 to 1941, 9 volumes

The WP(G) series of memoranda was of a less secret nature than the WP and CP series (CAB 66) and was more widely distributed. See *List and Index Society*, volume 148.

CAB 68 War Cabinet Memoranda WP(R) Series, 1939 to 1942, 9 volumes

See *List and Index Society*, volume 148.

CAB 129 Cabinet Memoranda from 1945, 1945 to 1964, 119 volumes, files, microfilmed photostat volumes

Cabinet Committee Records

See *List and Index Society*, volume 131 for classes from CAB 26 to CAB 39; volume 140 for classes from CAB 58 to CAB 98; and volume 162 for CAB 10. See also Section 1.3.6.

CAB 26 Home Affairs Committee, 1918 to 1939, 24 volumes

Minutes of meetings and papers.

CAB 27 Committees General Series to 1939, 1915 to 1939, 663 volumes, etc

CAB 39 War Trade Advisory Committee, 1914 to 1919, 114 folders

CAB 58 Economic Advisory Council, 1925 to 1939, 208 volumes

The records comprise the minutes and memoranda of the Committee of Civil Research and the Council and of standing sub-committees and ad hoc committees formed from 1925 to 1939. There were sub-committees on empire migration, nutrition in the colonial empire, etc. See also Section 1.3.4.

CAB 72 War Cabinet Committees on Economic Policy, 1939 to 1945, 28 volumes, file

CAB 74 War Cabinet Ministerial Committee on Food Policy, 1939 to 1943, 12 volumes

CAB 76 War Cabinet Committees on Imperial Communications and Censorship, 1939 to 1946, 22 volumes

CAB 77 War Cabinet Committee on Oil Policy, 1939 to 1946, 30 volumes

CAB 78 War Cabinet Committees Miscellaneous and General Series, 1941 to 1947, 39 volumes

CAB 79 War Cabinet, Chiefs of Staff Committee, Minutes of Meetings, 1939 to 1946, 92 volumes

The minutes continue in DEFE 4 after 1946. The registered files of the committee are in DEFE 11 after 1946.

- CAB 80 War Cabinet, Chiefs of Staff Committee, Memoranda, 1939 to 1946, 107 volumes
- The memoranda continue in DEFE 5.
- CAB 81 War Cabinet, Chiefs of Staff Committees and Sub-Committees, Minutes and Papers, 1939 to 1947, 105 volumes, files
- The committee papers continue in DEFE 8.
- CAB 82 War Cabinet, Deputy Chiefs of Staff Committee and Sub-Committees, Minutes and papers, 1939 to 1947, 31 volumes
- CAB 84 War Cabinet Joint Planning Committees, 1939 to 1947, 95 volumes, files
- The files of the Joint Planning Staff are in CAB 119. Minutes and memoranda are in CAB 138. CAB 84 continues in DEFE 6. See also Section 1.3.3.
- CAB 87 War Cabinet Committees on Reconstruction, 1941 to 1946, 107 files
- The Reconstruction Secretariat files are CAB 117. See also Section 1.3.9.
- CAB 88 War Cabinet Combined Chiefs of Staff Committees and Sub-Committees, 1942 to 1949, 108 volumes, papers
- CAB 89 War Cabinet Survey of Economic and Financial Plans Committee, 1939 to 1941, 50 volumes and files
- CAB 92 War Cabinet Committees on Supply, Production, Priority and Manpower, 1939 to 1946, 133 volumes, file
- CAB 95 War Cabinet Committees on the Middle East and Africa, 1939 to 1945, 18 volumes
- CAB 96 War Cabinet Committees on the Far East, 1940 to 1945, 10 volumes
- CAB 97 War Cabinet Shipping Committees, 1940 to 1945, 9 volumes, files
- CAB 98 War Cabinet Miscellaneous Committees, 1939 to 1947, 62 volumes
- This class includes the records of the Committee for the Control of Official Histories, 1940 to 1945.
- CAB 107 War Cabinet, Co-ordination of Departmental Action in the Event of War with Certain Countries, 1940 to 1942, 10 volumes
- CAB 130 Ad Hoc Committees: Gen and Misc Series, 1945 to 1964, 197 volumes, files, booklets

- CAB 131 Defence Committee, 1946 to 1963, 28 volumes and files
- CAB 134 Cabinet Committees: General Series from 1945, 1945 to 1974, 2578 volumes, files
- CAB 148 Defence and Oversea Policy Committee and Sub-committees, Minutes and Papers, 1964 to 1965, 64 volumes, files

3.2 CABINET OFFICE RECORDS

Registered Files

- CAB 21 Cabinet Office Registered Files, 1916 to 1973, 4545 files

This key class consists of registered files on matters handled by the War Cabinet and Cabinet and their committees. It also covers the establishment and work of the secretariat. There are files concerning the dependent territories in most regions. A subject index is found at the beginning of the class list. The subjects covered are diverse although defence predominates until the end of the Second World War. Before the war the main concern was imperial defence, including questions on the Middle East and the development of a naval base at Singapore. In the late 1930s, following the appointment and report of the West India Royal Commission, the urgent welfare needs of the colonies began to gain attention. During the war years the files relate almost entirely to defence, including the use of US bases in the Caribbean, Middle East defence issues, the work of the resident ministers in the Middle East and in West Africa and defence measures in East African colonies. After the war there are more files on colonial policy, welfare, development schemes and constitutional questions. In the mid 1950s there are files concerning the Suez Canal and the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference. See *List and Index Society*, volume 131.

- CAB 104 Cabinet Office Registered Files, Supplementary Series, 1923 to 1951, 285 files

This class contains a selection of registered files originally retained by the Cabinet Office on matters handled by the War Cabinet and the Cabinet. Defence questions predominate and many documents relate to the Chiefs of Staff (see Section 1.3.6) and the Joint Planning Staff (see Section 1.3.3). British policy in the Middle East and the defence of the region, especially Palestine, was of major concern before, during and after the war. Other matters covered include the defence of Malta, US bases in British territories in the West Indies, the war books to which all governmental offices contributed and general defence schemes. The class includes the weekly letters to the minister resident in West Africa and correspondence and papers relating to the Committee of Imperial Defence Joint Oversea and Home Defence Committee (see CAB 36) on defence plans in the event of attack before the declaration of war.

International and Commonwealth Conference Papers

See Section 2.3 which covers Cabinet Committees concerned with international bodies and conferences.

CAB 29 International Conferences to 1939, 1916 to 1939, 167 folders

This class contains minutes and papers of proceedings at various international conferences and at other less formal meetings with representatives of foreign governments. Many of these refer to colonies if only in general. For example, the records of the Monetary and Economic Conference of 1933 include figures of production and trade relating to grain crops, many of which were grown in the colonies. See also CAB 32, CAB 99 and CAB 133. See *List and Index Society*, volume 131.

CAB 32 Imperial Conferences to 1939, 1917 to 1937, 137 volumes

These records include the minutes and memoranda of imperial conferences. Records relating to committees set up by the conferences are also included. These committees were often composed of representatives of delegations to the conference. They include, for instance, the Colonial Laws Validity Act Committee of the Conference on the Operation of Dominion Legislation and Merchant Shipping Legislation 1929, and the Policy Committee of the Imperial Conference and Economic Conference 1930, which examined economic policy of the empire. See *List and Index Society*, volume 131.

CAB 99 War Cabinet, Commonwealth and International Conferences, 1938 to 1945, 40 volumes

These are mainly records of meetings of commonwealth ministers and of the UK prime minister and the US president who discussed wartime operations and aspects of the Mutual Aid Agreement. See *List and Index Society*, volume 140.

CAB 133 Commonwealth and International Conferences from 1945, 1945 to 1966, 325 volumes, files, booklets

Many records in this class relate to the European Recovery Programme as dealt with by the Commonwealth Liaison Committee (see Section 2.3). Other conferences and meetings include the Nigeria Constitution Conference, 1954; the Meeting on Technical Assistance in South-East Asia; and commonwealth meetings on various subjects such as oil, general economic and trade questions and sterling area balances of payments prospects.

Historical Section Records

The work of the Committee for the Control of Official Histories is covered in Section 2.3. See also Section 1.3.2.

- CAB 44 Historical Section, Official War Histories, Narratives (Military), 1914 to 1965, 429 volumes, etc

This class contains detailed narratives of military operations relating to the First and Second World Wars. CAB 44/1-45 include draft chapters of unpublished official war histories relating to the First World War, while CAB 44/46-429 are narratives based on primary sources, including diaries, which formed the framework for the official histories in the military series. There are, for instance, detailed descriptions of campaigns and operations, such as those in East Africa and Malaya; of administration, such as transport communications in the Middle East; and of major strategic developments in the various theatres of war, such as the Far East, East and West Africa, the Mediterranean (Malta) and the Middle East. See *List and Index Society*, volume 140.

- CAB 45 Historical Section, Official War Histories (1914-1918), Correspondence and Papers, 1904 to 1957, 291 volumes, etc

This class contains unregistered correspondence and papers of the Historical Section. These include original letters, comments and personal accounts of war operations in East Africa and the Middle East and notes regarding West African troops in the First World War. See *List and Index Society*, volume 140.

- CAB 101 Cabinet Office Historical Section: Official War Histories (Second World War): Military, 1944 to 1978, 348 volumes, files

These official military histories include confidential citations of original sources that were not given in the published versions. The majority of the work was based on events in Europe, but subjects such as British military administration in the Far East, 1943 to 1946, were also covered. The histories provide detailed descriptions of events and developments during the war. The class also contains drafts, revisions, critical commentaries, background papers, unpublished narratives and correspondence on progress and publication. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

- CAB 102 Cabinet Office Historical Section: Official War Histories (Second World War): Civil, 1941 to 1972, 878 volumes, files

The papers were assembled for the civil series of the Second World War and consist mainly of drafts prepared by narrators and historians. The subjects covered include the oil crisis of 1944 to 1945, the development of port capacity in the Middle East, empire

production of flax (especially in Kenya) and overseas supply. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 103 Cabinet Office Historical Section: Registered Files, 1906 to 1982, 609 files

This class contains the registered files of the Historical Section. They include correspondence and papers on the history of the Middle East Supply Centre and the British Supply Mission (Middle East), medical histories of the services, notes on policies relating to the supply of raw materials and information on the emergency in Malaya and the East African campaign. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 106 Cabinet Office Historical Section: Archivist and Librarian Files (A-L Series), 1939 to 1967, volumes, files

This is the registered file series of the archivist and the librarian (A-L). It includes correspondence, operational reports, extracts from official and personal war diaries, personal descriptions of events such as the Iraqi revolt in 1941 and the operations in the Somaliland Protectorate and comments by commanders associated with military narratives produced by the British and the Commonwealth historical sections. There are also documents describing the way in which the forces of each colony were employed during the Second World War; the growth of the forces through the war; and the administration, control and cost of colonial forces. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 140 Official Historians' Correspondence, 1942 to 1975, 159 files

This class contains unregistered files of the historians of the official and civil and military histories of the Second World War. They include reference to the defence of Egypt and the Sudan and to operations in the Middle East and Mediterranean.

Lord President of the Council Records

See Section 1.3.5 for a description of the Office of the Lord President of the Council. The Lord President's Committee is covered in Section 2.3.

CAB 71 War Cabinet, Lord President's Committees, 1940 to 1946, 34 volumes

The work of the Lord President's Committee is described in Section 1.3.5. See *List and Index Society*, volume 140.

CAB 123 Lord President of the Council: Secretariat Files, 1930 to 1951, 297 files

This class contains the lord president's files and correspondence. For the most part it relates to domestic issues, but there are papers on import and export programmes (including colonial commodities), lend-lease materials and the Middle East Supply

Centre. The lord president of the Council was also involved with the Agricultural Research Council, which was the official channel of communication with scientific organization in the empire. The class includes papers and correspondence relating to this and other bodies, such as the National Radium Trust.

- CAB 124 Minister of Reconstruction, Lord President of the Council and Minister for Science: Secretariat Files, 1940 to 1970, 2966 files

The earlier records in this class concern the co-ordination of post-war reconstruction planning. Colonial development was an important aspect, and there are papers and extracts from the House of Commons reports on the Colonial Overseas Resources Bill. There was a great deal of emphasis on the East Africa Groundnut Scheme, but other projects and areas of development were also considered. The files also include correspondence and papers of the Overseas Research Working Party, a body concerned with medical and scientific research and technical assistance in the colonies. The later documents concern the duties of the lord president of the Council. These included matters concerning publicity about Britain and the empire by the Overseas Information Services and participation by the commonwealth and colonies in the Festival of Britain 1951.

- CAB 132 Lord President's Committee and Sub-Committees, 1945 to 1968, 219 volumes and file

Committee of Imperial Defence Records

The work of the committee is described in Sections 1.3.1 and 2.3. See *List and Index Society*, volume 131 for classes from CAB 2 to CAB 36; and volume 140 for classes from CAB 47 to CAB 55 and CAB 60.

- CAB 2 Committee of Imperial Defence: Minutes, 1902 to 1939, 9 volumes, etc
- CAB 4 Committee of Imperial Defence: Miscellaneous Memoranda, 1903 to 1939, 30 volumes, etc
- CAB 5 Committee of Imperial Defence: Colonial Defence Memoranda, 1902 to 1939, 9 volumes
- CAB 7 Committee of Imperial Defence: Colonial/Oversea Defence Committee Minutes, 1877 to 1939, 18 volumes
- CAB 8 Committee of Imperial Defence: Colonial/Oversea Defence Committee Memoranda, 1885 to 1939, 56 volumes
- CAB 9 Committee of Imperial Defence: Colonial/Oversea Defence Committee Remarks, 1887 to 1939, 21 volumes

Remarks on memoranda and defence schemes prepared by the colonies (see CAB 11).

- CAB 10 Committee of Imperial Defence: Colonial/Oversea Defence Committee, Minutes by the Committee, 1907 to 1939, 10 volumes, etc
- An incomplete collection of minutes by the secretary of the Oversea Defence Committee.
- CAB 11 Committee of Imperial Defence: Colonial/Oversea Defence Committee Defence Schemes, 1863 to 1939, 216 volumes, etc
- These detailed defence schemes, submitted by various colonies to the Oversea Defence Committee, consider general defence problems and defence plans for peacetime and wartime. They concern questions such as transport facilities and supply of food and oil.
- CAB 15 Committee of Imperial Defence: Committee on the Co-ordination of Departmental Action, 1911 to 1939, 39 volumes, etc
- CAB 16 Committee of Imperial Defence: Ad Hoc Sub-Committees, 1905 to 1939, 231 volumes, etc
- CAB 35 Committee of Imperial Defence: Imperial Communications Committee, 1919 to 1939, 45 volumes, etc
- CAB 36 Committee of Imperial Defence: Joint Oversea and Home Defence Committee, 1920 to 1939, 23 volumes
- CAB 47 Committee of Imperial Defence: Advisory Committee on Trade Questions in Time of War, 1924 to 1939, 15 volumes
- CAB 49 Committee of Imperial Defence: Standing Interdepartmental Committee on Censorship, 1924 to 1939, 20 volumes
- CAB 50 Committee of Imperial Defence: Oil Board, 1925 to 1939, 19 volumes
- CAB 51 Committee of Imperial Defence: Middle East Questions Committee, 1930 to 1939, 11 volumes
- CAB 52 Committee of Imperial Defence: War Legislation Committees, 1924 to 1939, 9 volumes
- CAB 54 Committee of Imperial Defence: Deputy Chiefs of Staff Committee, 1932 to 1939, 13 volumes
- CAB 55 Committee of Imperial Defence: Joint Planning Committee, 1923 to 1939, 19 volumes

CAB 56 Committee of Imperial Defence: Joint Intelligence Committee, 1936 to 1974, 7 volumes and files

CAB 59 Committee of Imperial Defence: Committee Lists, 1927 to 1939, 6 volumes

These lists show the composition and terms of reference of the Committee of Imperial Defence and its sub-committees from June 1927 to August 1939. The work of the committees is described in Section 2.3.

CAB 60 Committee of Imperial Defence: Principal Supply Officers' Committee, 1924 to 1939, 73 volumes

Private Papers

CAB 63 Hankey Papers, 1908 to 1944, 191 files, volumes

M P A Hankey was secretary to the Cabinet from 1916 and the Committee of Imperial Defence from 1912 until he retired in 1938. He also chaired numerous ad hoc committees concerned with various aspects of war. This class contains memoranda and reports, mainly prepared by Hankey, some of which became Cabinet papers. It also includes diaries (1926 to 1937); papers relating to Hankey's visits to dominion countries and papers and correspondence relating to his work as a member of the War Cabinet in the Second World War. Some of this material concerns the dependent territories, especially on supply questions. There are papers on the Middle East Supply Centre, the North American Supply Committee and Allied supplies (including supplies to West Africa). There are scattered references to the defence of other relevant areas such as Egypt and Palestine. See *List and Index Society*, volume 140.

CAB 118 Various Ministers: Files, 1938 to 1947, 91 files

These papers were collected by Clement Attlee during his term of office as deputy prime minister. They include a file on colonial constitutional development which refers to Ceylon, Malaya and Singapore. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 127 Private Collections: Ministers and Officials, 1922 to 1961, 344 files

This class contains papers of various ministers and senior officials including General Ismay, Sir Stafford Cripps, Ramsay MacDonald and Lord Normanbrook. There is a small quantity of scattered colonial material including several files on Palestine as well as on broader issues of colonial policy. Sir Stafford Cripps' papers include a file on Jamaica, and Sir Edward Bridges' contain one on the resident minister in West Africa.

Other Records

- CAB 64 Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence, Registered Files, 1924 to 1939, 36 folders

Many of the documents in this class are copies and extracts of minutes and memoranda of the Cabinet, Committee of Imperial Defence and Cabinet committees and memoranda compiled on a subject basis for the minister's use. For the most part the files concern the situation in Europe, but they contain some material relevant to the dependent territories, particularly concerning negotiations for an Anglo-Egyptian treaty. There is also material on the definition of mandates and the question of returning mandated territories, especially in Africa, to Germany. See *List and Index Society*, volume 140.

- CAB 100 War Cabinet Daily Situation Reports, 1939 to 1945, 13 volumes

These reports, prepared for the information of the War Cabinet, mention incidents which took place in or around the dependent territories. See *List and Index Society*, volume 140.

- CAB 105 War Cabinet Telegrams, 1941 to 1948, 194 volumes

The class includes telegraphic communications with and about the military staff in the Middle East, South-East Asia, the Far East and Africa. However, most of the telegrams in the series were sent between the British Joint Staff Mission in Washington and the War Cabinet and/or the Chiefs of Staff in London (see Section 1.3.6). These relate to joint considerations and operations such as US bases in British West Indies, the administration of Fiji and of Tonga, events in French West Africa affecting British territories in the region and general issues relating to the Middle East. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

- CAB 109 London Munitions Assignment Board: Secretary's Files, 1942 to 1946, 130 files

The London Munitions Assignment Board was concerned with the allocation of completed war materials throughout the empire from US and UK resources as described in Section 1.3.13. This class contains files relating to the establishment and work of the board. In general they deal with allocation of specific items such as tyres and tanks, as well as with the supply of equipment to specific countries such as Iraq and Egypt. For the most part, however, the board was concerned with the dominions. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

- CAB 110 Joint American Secretariat: Secretary's Files, 1942 to 1947, 264 files

The Joint American Secretariat is described in Section 1.3.12. Its files consist mainly of correspondence with the British supply organizations, such as the British Supply Council in North America. There are papers relating to the application of the lend-

lease programme, the Middle East Supply Centre and the setting up of the Food and Agriculture Organization. The issues considered include, for example, relief for liberated territories, and supply of copper from Northern Rhodesia to the US as reciprocal aid. There is information on Middle Eastern procurement programmes, for instance for the supply of cocoa beans from Ceylon and British West Africa. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 111 Allied Supplies Executive, 1940 to 1946, 478 files

The Allied Supplies Executive, which is described in Section 1.3.10, was primarily concerned with military and civil supplies to Russia and the Middle East. The secretary's files which form this class cover colonial requirements and the allocation of shipping space for goods to British territories as well as the organization of the Middle East Supply Centre. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 115 Central Office for North American Supplies, 1939 to 1944, 756 files

This class contains memoranda, statements, correspondence, minutes and papers of various committees concerned with supplying armaments and raw materials to Britain, the allies, Commonwealth countries and colonial territories. They mainly concern lend-lease arrangements. For example, the Colonial Supply Liaison which was attached to the British Supply Council examined lend-lease supplies to the colonies. The Middle East was a primary concern and supplies for the Middle East Supply Centre were examined. The work of the office is described in Section 1.3.7. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 117 Reconstruction Secretariat: Files, 1940 to 1944, 272 files

The secretariat is described in Section 1.3.9. Its files include papers of and about the numerous committees and sub-committees dealing with various aspects of post-war reconstruction; for instance, the Fabian Colonial Bureau Labour Committee which was concerned with social welfare in the light of proposed world commodity schemes. Other papers examine colonial economic problems in the reconstruction period and Anglo-American co-operation for colonial affairs. See also CAB 87, War Cabinet Committees on Reconstruction. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 119 Joint Planning Staff: Files, 1939 to 1948, 221 files

The function of the Joint Planning Staff is described in Section 1.3.3. Its files contain correspondence and working papers relating to the preparation of memoranda (see CAB 138) submitted to the Chiefs of Staff (see Section 1.3.6). The staff were concerned with general defence strategy, particularly in the Middle East and South-East Asia. They examined the role of the South-East Asia Command operations in the Mediterranean and the Far East. The papers of the Joint Planning Committees are in CAB 84. See *List and Index Society*, volume 162.

CAB 120 Minister of Defence: Secretariat Files, 1938 to 1947, 862 files

The files relate mainly to the period during which Churchill and later Attlee combined the offices of prime minister and minister of defence, as described in Section 1.3.8. The files reflect the personal direction of the war and its aftermath over the whole range of issues in which the minister involved himself and the machinery through which he operated. They include minutes by the prime minister, personal telegrams to allied heads of state and military commanders and copies of relevant extracts of the Defence, Chiefs of Staff and other committees. The subjects examined include trans-African supply and reinforcement routes; operations in the Middle East, East and West Africa; and the organization of forces in the Far East, Middle East and South-East Asia. See *List and Index Society*, volume 191.

CAB 122 British Joint Staff Mission: Washington Office Files, 1940 to 1958, 1607 files

The work of the mission is described in Section 1.3.6. Its records consist mainly of copies of telegrams, correspondence and committee papers. There is a subject index at the beginning of the class list. Files relating to the colonies mainly concern military matters. There are files on the various commands, including the Caribbean Defence Command, which relate particularly to supplies to and the operations of the South-East Asia Command. Other files cover raw materials, particularly rubber; foodstuffs, for instance the allocation of rice; the bases in the West Indies; communications in the empire; and employment of US coloured troops in West Africa.

CAB 138 British Joint Staff Mission: Minutes and Memoranda, 1942 to 1952, 8 volumes

The relevant committees are covered in Section 2.3. See also Section 1.3.6. The Joint Planning Staff committees' papers are in CAB 84.

CAB 139 Central Statistical Office: Correspondence and Papers, 1939 to 1967, 532 files

The Central Statistical Office, which is described in Section 1.3.11, collected figures covering the development of the UK war effort and the recovery programme after the war. The Colonial Office gathered general economic statistics for the Central Statistical Office, the main classes of statistics being: economic resources and institutions, population and vital statistics, production, distribution, external trade, transport, labour, prices, currency and banking, government finance and national income. Information was also collected on grants for research in the colonies and their expenditure and on colonial casualties during the war. The function of the Statistical Section and the improvement of colonial statistics is examined in a memorandum in this class (CAB 139/197).

CAB 141 Central Statistical Office: Selected Working Papers, 1934 to 1968, 145 files

The papers include information on raw materials, many of which originated in the colonies; the Colonial Office balance of payments; and the strength of the British empire including statistics of casualties and prisoners of war.

See also Section 1.3.11.

CAB 142 United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration: United Kingdom Delegation, 1943 to 1946, 64 files

This class contains minutes of meetings and papers of the UK delegation to the UNRRA Council together with similar material from the British Commonwealth delegations to the council and from the council itself and its committees. Ceylon, the South-East Asian territories and the Far East were of major concern. The council's sub-committees focused on agriculture, health and welfare.

CHAPTER 4

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

4.1 ROLE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

The prime minister is the head of government. He or she is normally a minister without portfolio in the formal sense, although this is not always the case. For instance, during the Second World War Churchill took on added responsibility as minister for defence. The prime minister is also the first lord of the Treasury, a post which carries no departmental duties. The lack of departmental responsibilities and the vantage position he or she occupies at the apex of the Cabinet places the prime minister uniquely to oversee and co-ordinate government policies. The prime minister has ultimate responsibility for the smooth running of the government machinery, and for ensuring that ministers do not contradict or lose sight of government policies as a whole in carrying out their departmental and political duties. For this reason the prime minister has access to all departments of state and is kept informed of major policy issues especially those relating to foreign affairs.

To assist in discharging his or her duties, the prime minister has an office consisting of a small permanent staff and officials seconded from Whitehall departments.

4.2 INVOLVEMENT IN COLONIAL/IMPERIAL AFFAIRS

Prime Minister's Office files are an important source of information about major policy decision making for the colonies. Often they include copies of high level documents. The prime minister could pronounce on any colonial issue if he so desired, but in practice only topical subjects tended to receive his attention.

Before the Second World War the Prime Minister's Office concerned itself with only a limited range of colonial issues: various aspects of imperial conferences were examined and the office reviewed policy relating to the naval base in Singapore. Some attention was also devoted to the question of Germany's claims for the return of its former colonies. However, the most important pre-war issue, and one which continued to occupy the attention of the office after the war, was the situation in Palestine.

During the war, the Prime Minister's Office was mainly preoccupied with defence issues and, to a lesser extent, with the constitutional future of the colonies, particularly in the light of Lord Hailey's *An African Survey*, first published in 1938. The prime minister was also kept informed of specific problems within individual territories, such as the deteriorating rice situation in Malaya.

Post-war concerns of the Prime Minister's Office focused mainly on economic reconstruction and how the colonies might help to achieve it. For instance, the need to develop food production and facilities for extracting raw materials was considered. The possibility of foreign investment, especially from the USA, was investigated and mutual aid discussed. The potential contribution of the colonies to Britain's balance of payments position was also reviewed. In the 1950s, defence and security issues continued to receive the prime minister's attention. Notably, these included the emergency situation in Kenya, the

increased security measures in Cyprus, the mounting tension with Egypt and the events leading up to the Suez crisis. During the same period more emphasis was given to constitutional issues in the colonies including a review of preparations for self-government in the Gold Coast, Malaya and the Sudan.

4.3 SUMMARIES OF RELEVANT CLASSES

PREM 1 Prime Minister's Office Correspondence and Papers 1916 to 1940, 1914 to 1940, 444 files

This class contains miscellaneous papers, including letters, reports, telegrams, memoranda and press cuttings, recording government business in the Prime Minister's Office from 1916 to 1940. Before 1934, ministers, on leaving office, took many documents with them. Consequently there are few papers for those early years. The papers have been listed under subject headings and an index to the list provided. See *List and Index Society*, volume 126.

The series continues for 1939 to 1946 in PREM 4; for 1945 to 1951 in PREM 8; and for 1951 to 1964 in PREM 11.

PREM 2 Honours Lists and Papers, 1915 to 1941, 111 files

This class contains papers relating to various awards. The lists include Colonial Office officials and some files include short dossiers on their backgrounds. See *List and Index Society*, volume 126.

PREM 3 Operations Papers, 1938 to 1946, 526 files

The papers deal with defence and operational subjects involving the prime minister and the minister of defence. They comprise private minutes, telegrams, letters and communiqués. Most illustrate the importance of the Middle East, and many include related material on East Africa, the Sudan and West Africa. Other papers concern troop organization and movement, looking at specific operations, the availability of African forces for operations in the Balkans and negotiations with foreign countries. Some documents examine Russia's part in the Far East war, while others are concerned with negotiations with the Free French regarding Syria and Madagascar. They are paralleled by the Minister of Defence Secretariat files in the records of the Cabinet Office (CAB 120; see Section 3.2).

Although PREM 3 relates largely to the conduct of the war and PREM 4 to the work of the civil departments, the distinction is not always consistent, and readers should check both classes. The introductory note at the start of the class list provides a detailed description of the organization of the files. See *List and Index Society*, volume 126.

PREM 4 Confidential Papers, 1939 to 1946, 135 files

This is a continuation of the ordinary peacetime series PREM 1. The papers, which include telegrams, letters, reports, newspaper cuttings and extracts from House of Commons debates, deal with civil and political matters. A number of colonial constitutional and policy questions are covered. For example, the office examined the place of the colonies within the Commonwealth and the possibility of self-government for some of the colonies. The deteriorating situation in Palestine caused by Jewish immigration was a major concern. Other civil issues raised include the plight of Arab citrus growers in Palestine, seed cotton marketing in Uganda, rice reserves for Malaya and accommodation for refugees in the UK and the colonial territories.

There is a small amount of overlap with PREM 3, which deals with defence issues for the same period. The introductory note at the start of the class list provides a detailed description of the organization of the files. See *List and Index Society*, volume 126.

See PREM 1 for similar papers from 1916 to 1940; PREM 8 from 1945 to 1951; and PREM 11 from 1951 to 1964.

PREM 5 Patronage, 1907 to 1967, 438 files

The papers in this class relate to the ministerial, civil and ecclesiastical appointments for which the prime minister was responsible. For the most part these had little colonial relevance, but some files concern the organization of official machinery for the administration of British territories. They include, for example, reference to the creation of separate offices to handle dominion and colonial affairs in 1925. Also in 1925 the prime minister sought to fill various vacant positions on the Suez Canal Board. Finally, in the late 1920s the prime minister felt that the two offices of governor-general of the Union of South Africa and high commissioner for South Africa should be separated. The papers offered suggestions on how to accommodate this change. See *List and Index Society*, volume 126.

PREM 7 Private Collections, 1939 to 1951, 16 files

This class contains the private papers of Sir Desmond Morton, personal assistant to the prime minister from 1940 to 1945. Several of the files refer to British co-operation with France in regard to the African colonies examining, for example, French manoeuvres in West Africa involving Sierra Leone. PREM 7/8 contains the minutes of the War Cabinet Committee on the French Resistance at which the Colonial Office takeover of the administration of the French Cameroons was considered. This file also examines the suggestion that the Sudan government should be informed of the policy adopted by the British West African colonies in their dealings with neighbouring French territories, and that they should be invited to adopt a similar line.

PREM 8 Correspondence and Papers 1945 to 1951, 1935 to 1951, 1577 files

The papers in this class are similar to those in PREM 1. They deal with a wide variety of subjects relating to British territories. These range from specific issues such as the 'medicine' murders in Basutoland, to broader issues such as the role of the empire in the correction of the balance of payments. Constitutional and administrative questions are considered, including, for example, the political development of East and Central Africa and the future administration of the ex-Italian colonies. Development issues arise frequently, and in 1949 numerous papers examine the question of foreign investment in colonial development.

See PREM 1 for similar papers from 1916 to 1940; PREM 4 from 1939 to 1946; and PREM 11 from 1951 to 1964.

PREM 11 Prime Minister's Office: Correspondence and Papers 1951 to 1964, 1948 to 1964, 5208 files

The papers in this class continue those in PREM 1, PREM 4 and PREM 8. Numerous files concern the British territories. Many papers relate to the Suez crisis and its implications for the balance of payments as oil had to be obtained from the USA. Documents in this class also contain material on constitutional issues and the move to independence, notably in Ghana, Somaliland, Malaya and Singapore. The internal security of various territories was also considered: riots in Sierra Leone in 1955 and the Seretse Khama issue in Bechuanaland in 1956 specifically caused anxiety.

An index to the subject headings used in the class list is provided with the list.

4.4 LIST OF PRIME MINISTERS

22 May 1923	S Baldwin
22 Jan 1924	J R MacDonald
4 Nov 1924	S Baldwin
5 June 1929	J R MacDonald
7 June 1935	S Baldwin
28 May 193	N Chamberlain
10 May 1940	W Churchill
26 July 1945	C R Attlee
26 Oct 1951	(Sir) W Churchill
6 Apr 1955	Sir A Eden
10 Jan 1957	H Macmillan
18 Oct 1963	Sir A Douglas-Home
16 Oct 1964	H Wilson

D Butler and J Freeman, *British Political Facts*, 3rd edn (London, 1969)

CHAPTER 5

FOREIGN OFFICE

5.1 FOREIGN OFFICE INVOLVEMENT IN COLONIAL AFFAIRS

The Foreign Office had formal responsibility for managing the external relations of the United Kingdom and its dependencies. It carried out its functions through British missions abroad, including representatives on international bodies such as the United Nations, and foreign missions in Britain. During the period under review international relations involved an increasingly wide range of political, social and economic issues, so that other departments of state came progressively to have an interest in the formulation of foreign policy.

Between the wars, the Colonial Office enjoyed considerable autonomy in colonial affairs. The Foreign Office role was comparatively limited. It was responsible for the administration of the Sudan, and was accountable to the League of Nations for the mandated territories of Palestine, Iraq, Transjordan, Tanganyika, the Cameroons and Togoland, although the administration of these fell to the Colonial Office and to governors and high commissioners. The Foreign Office was also involved in questions such as the welfare of foreign nationals resident in British territories. It intervened in colonial affairs proper only when wider British interests were thought to be involved. For instance, it might show concern over the possible diplomatic implications of the selection of a governor, as in the case of Hong Kong in 1929, or become involved wherever proposals might affect another colonial power, as when the Belgians proposed to establish a fish farm in Lake Edward, between Uganda and the Congo, a scheme which the Foreign Office supported and the Colonial Office opposed. In the early 1930s, the office was particularly concerned with developments in the Far East, and especially with the implications of Japanese expansionism for British colonial interests in the region.

During and after the Second World War, the relative autonomy of the Colonial Office declined as the influence of international agencies grew, and the Foreign Office took an increasingly active interest in the diplomatic aspects of colonial affairs. From the Second World War onwards, therefore, Foreign Office records became a source of growing importance for colonial research. The need for joint planning of production and distribution of supplies, and for the co-ordination of strategic objectives for the Allied war effort, involved the Foreign Office in negotiations and discussions with US officials over a whole range of issues. This led, for instance, to an increase in American involvement in the Middle East through the Middle East Supply Centre, and facilitated Britain's lease of Caribbean bases to the USA. The Foreign Office was also responsible for overseas publicity concerning Britain's colonies and colonial policy. More importantly, Britain's role in the post-war economic order was much altered and, as a result of the Bretton Woods Agreement, attempts were made to reduce barriers to international trade.

Some new Foreign Office responsibilities in the colonial field arose directly out of the war. These included the administration of the former Italian colonies through the machinery of the Foreign Office Administration of African Territories (FOAAT), and the work of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). Other areas of responsibility resulted from post-war international, economic and political reconstruction, which gave rise to a number of international

organizations such as the United Nations and its specialized agencies, and schemes such as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the European Recovery Programme (ERP), all of which had relevance to the colonies. It was the Foreign Office's task to ensure that the colonies complied with any international obligations incurred as a result of Britain's participation in these arrangements.

With the trend moving towards self-government, the work of the Colonial Office focused increasingly on plans for constitutional change in Africa. The Foreign Office was more involved in Asian affairs, especially following the independence of India, Burma and Ceylon. Other reasons for this concentration included time and proximity of other colonial powers, the international implications of the Malayan emergency and the need for food aid to the liberated colonies and their importance as producers of raw materials - particularly rubber and tin - to offset the dollar deficit of the sterling area.

By 1957, where this study ends, Foreign Office involvement in colonial affairs had increased, not only in Asia and the Middle East but in Africa, the Caribbean and elsewhere. Security considerations, moves towards greater integration with Europe and decolonization ensured continued and growing Foreign Office involvement in colonial affairs prior to the eventual fusion of the Foreign and Commonwealth Offices in October 1968.

5.2 DEPARTMENTS OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE

5.2.1 Annotated List of Foreign Office Departments

The Foreign Office was divided functionally into political and non-political departments. The political departments were responsible for the diplomatic business of the Foreign Office. Initially these were established on a geographical basis. Subsequently an increasing number of functional or subject departments were set up to handle those aspects of Britain's diplomatic affairs which cut across geographical lines. The non-political departments were concerned with managing the technical aspects of the office's machinery and services rather than with the content of its policies.

The list that follows describes the work of the departments in both categories. Most, if not all of them, were involved with the colonies at some stage, some much more than others. The list indicates their area of responsibility and the record class(es) in which their records may be found. The contents of the classes are summarized in Section 5.6.

5.2.2 Political Departments: Geographical

Africa Department (J)

Established in 1949, the department took over responsibility for Africa from the Egyptian Department (qv). From 1925 to 1930, African affairs had come under the African and American Department (qv). The Africa Department dealt with: matters relating to defence; anti-colonial groups; administration of the former Italian territories in Africa in conjunction with FOAAT between 1949 and 1952 (see Section 5.5.4); the Suez Canal; and representation at various scientific, labour and political conferences

pertaining to Africa. It became the West and Central Africa Department in 1962.

FO 371

American Department (A)

Following a reorganization in 1925, the African and American Department was set up. Its responsibilities for Africa ceased in 1930 when it became the American Department. Its work expanded considerably during and after the Second World War in line with Britain's growing involvement with the USA. It was also concerned with issues affecting the Caribbean territories, including the building of US bases in the Caribbean and the work of the Caribbean Commission. It was superseded by the North and South American Departments (qv) between 1945 and 1949, but resumed its former responsibilities in 1950.

FO 371

Central Department (C)

The Central Department succeeded the Central European and Persia Department in 1921. It was responsible for matters concerning territories in central Europe, and in the period 1942 to 1945, when the Western Department was suspended, it dealt with many of the countries which had been the latter's concern. From 1927 the Central Department was responsible for monitoring Franco-German relations and the enactment of the peace treaties and reparations. It was dissolved in 1945, although it re-emerged briefly between 1952 and 1954, during which time it shared responsibility for various countries within Western Europe with the Western and Southern Department.

FO 371

Eastern Department (E)

The department was established in 1919 to deal with territories in the Middle East and policy in these areas, dealing with such issues as trade, Arab unity, territorial claims, petroleum and Anglo-American co-operation. After the Second World War it was mainly concerned with economic development and liaised with bodies such as the Middle East Council of Agriculture, the Middle East Economic Conference and the Middle East Supply Centre.

FO 371

Egyptian Department (J)

The department was created in 1924. It was responsible for Egypt and Sudan, and for various other African territories from 1931 until 1949, when the Africa Department (qv) was formed. Anglo-Egyptian relations were the department's primary concern, particularly in relation to the Suez Canal and commercial agreements. During the Second World War the department handled the work of the Middle East Supply Centre (see Eastern Department), the Joint Egypto-Anglo-American Supplies

Board and the Anglo-Egyptian Wheat Committee. It was also concerned with British policy on Egyptian cotton.

FO 371

French Department (Z)

This department was established in 1941 to deal with France and the French colonies. Before this time, and after 1945, following the dissolution of the French Department, matters concerning France were handled by the Western Department (qv). In 1942 and 1943 the French Department was actively concerned with French West and Equatorial Africa and with French prisoners of war in British West Africa. It was also involved with the planning of the 1943 Allied Conference in Casablanca on the strategic direction of the war.

FO 371

Far Eastern Department (F)

This department was set up in 1899 with responsibilities initially limited to China, Japan and Siam. During the war it began to monitor events in the Pacific region generally, including those in the French possessions in Indo-China, the Netherlands East Indies and the Philippines. Responsibility for these territories was transferred to the South-East Asia Department (qv) on its creation in 1952. The Far Eastern Department was involved with various aspects of colonial policy, including negotiations with China on the future of Hong Kong, the reoccupation of Malaya and Sumatra (1944) and the Malaysian constitution.

German Department (C)

The Central Department's responsibilities for Germany and Austria passed to a new German Department in 1945. In 1947 this was sub-divided into a series of smaller departments to deal with the control and occupation of Germany. In 1953 the Central Department resumed responsibility for political relations with Germany.

FO 935-FO 946

Levant Department (V)

The Levant Department was created in 1953, taking over responsibilities for Iraq, Israel, Jordan, the Lebanon and Syria from the Eastern Department. It also dealt with economic and social development in the region and formed the link between the Foreign Office and its agency - the British Middle East Office - for social and economic development of British territories in the area.

FO 371

North American Department (AN)

In 1945, the American Department (qv) was divided into two - the North American Department and the South American Department (qv). The North American Department was responsible for affairs relating to the USA, Mexico, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, the Panama Canal Zone and the Caribbean region. It was reunited with the South American Department in 1950 as the American Department.

FO 371

Northern Department (N)

The Northern Department was one of the original Foreign Office departments. It dealt with affairs relating to Northern European countries.

FO 371

South American Department (AS)

See North American Department

Whilst in existence, the department dealt with all matters relating to South America and continental Central America, excluding Mexico and the Panama Canal Zone.

FO 371

South-East Asia Department (F)

This department was separated from the Far Eastern Department (qv) in 1947. It was responsible for the co-ordination of political and administrative questions as well as for food production and distribution in South-East Asia including Siam, French Indo-China, the Netherlands East Indies, Nepal, Tibet, Afghanistan, Burma, French and Portuguese India, India, Pakistan and Ceylon. In 1954 it assumed joint responsibility with the Colonial Office for the affairs of the South Pacific Commission and general Pacific questions.

FO 371

Southern Department (R)

The Southern Department was one of the original Foreign Office Departments. By the 1920s its responsibilities were confined to southern European countries, including Austria (up to 1938), Switzerland, Italy, Hungary, Spain, the Balkans and Greece, including issues relating to Cyprus.

FO 371

Western Department (Z) and (W)

The Western Department was first established in 1882. Its responsibilities changed considerably and frequently. Between 1925 and 1957 it was concerned with matters in Western European countries, and liaised with the League of Nations. The department was suspended between 1942 and 1945 when issues in Europe were dominated by the war and were handled by other departments, mainly the Central Department (qv). In 1951 it assumed responsibility for relations with individual western nations, while the Western Organizations Department was set up to deal with the various organizations established in the wake of the Second World War, including NATO, the Council of Europe and the Western European Union. The departments were merged in 1956. In the mean time, the Southern and Western departments were merged in 1953. They were again separated in 1956.

FO 371

5.2.3 Political Departments: Functional

Commonwealth Liaison Department (W)

The Dominions Intelligence Department (qv) was renamed the Commonwealth Liaison Department in 1947. It was responsible for providing information on foreign affairs to Commonwealth governments, promoting co-operation and consultation within the Commonwealth and Empire and keeping the Foreign Office advised on developments within the Commonwealth which had a potential bearing on foreign policy. The department was closed in 1952.

FO 371

Dominions Information and Dominions Intelligence Departments (U)

Established in 1926 to provide the dominions with information on foreign policy and to promote inter-imperial relations, the Dominions Information Department was closed in 1933 and its functions were transferred to the Treaty Department. In 1939 a separate Dominions Intelligence Department was set up with similar functions. In 1947 it was renamed the Commonwealth Liaison Department (qv).

FO 371 (1939-1947); FO 372 (1926-1928; 1933-1938); FO 627 (1929-1933)

Economic Relations Department (UE)

This department was created in 1945, although an Economic Relations Section had existed since 1930. It handled financial, economic, supply, commodity and commercial policy questions which affected UK relations with foreign countries other than Germany and Austria. It was concerned with UNRRA and general post-war relief policy. It also co-ordinated the economic work of other Foreign Office departments. By 1950 its scope included exchange controls; oil policy; and international organizations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). It assisted in formulating agreements

on colonial commodities and import licensing in the colonies.

FO 371

European Recovery Department (UR)

This department was created in 1948 to advise on policy relating to the economic recovery of Europe. It appointed an officer specifically responsible for colonial development. Trade liberalization was an early concern affecting colonial commodity exports. The department helped to assess the impact of economic measures of the ERP on British interests, including overseas territories. Its work was taken over by the Mutual Aid Department (qv) in 1950.

FO 371

General Department (G)

This department was formed in 1941, taking over the remaining work of the Central Department after the geographical elements were removed. Until 1945 it was concerned with questions related to the prosecution of the war. It ceased to function in 1957.

FO 371

Mutual Aid Department (UR)

The department was created in 1950 as a result of the reorganization of the Foreign Office departments dealing with NATO and the OEEC. It took up some functions of the European Recovery Department (qv), including those concerned with general economic co-operation in Europe, American military and economic assistance to Europe and major European organizations such as the OEEC, the ECE, the ECSC, the Council of Europe, and NATO. It considered the implications of international aid to British colonial dependencies.

FO 371

Refugee Department (WR)

Established in 1945, the department was set up to deal with matters relating to refugees and displaced persons. It represented the Foreign Office and British interests on the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees (see Section 9.2.2.). It was also concerned with the repatriation of internees held in colonial territories.

FO 371

Supply and Relief Department (UR)

This department began work in 1945. It was concerned mainly with the supply of food and raw materials, especially to liberated and conquered territories. It dealt with the FAO and the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe. It was also responsible for procuring aid for overseas territories, particularly in the Far East, as well as allocating prices and markets for colonial commodities. The department was closed in 1947, its responsibilities being transferred to the Mutual Aid and United Nations Departments (qv).

FO 371

United Nations Department (UN)

From 1945 matters relating to UNRRA and plans regarding the establishment of the UN were dealt with by the Western Department (qv). The United Nations Department was established in 1946. In 1948 its work was split between the UN (Political) and the UN (Economic and Social) Departments. A unified United Nations Department was re-formed in 1954. It advised on broad policy matters with regard to the establishment of the UN, and subsequently on issues such as the status of former colonial territories.

FO 371

5.2.4 Non-Political Departments**Chief Clerk's Department (X)**

The establishment and financial business of the Foreign Office were the responsibility of the Chief Clerk's Department from the time the Foreign Office was set up as a separate department. In 1933 the department's title was changed to the Establishment and Finance Department. In 1940 it became the Chief Clerk's (Establishment and Finance) Department. In 1942 a separate Personnel Department was established under the chief clerk's supervision and in 1945 establishment and finance matters were divided between an Establishment and Organization Department and a Finance Department.

FO 366

Communications Department (Y)

This department was established in 1922. It was responsible for all Foreign Office communications - correspondence, telecommunications, king's messengers and bag services - with posts abroad. It was also in charge of travel arrangements for diplomats as well as for security measures. Records for the period 1927 to 1935 have not survived.

FO 366; FO 850

Conference Department (various designations)

The department grew out of a section set up in 1941 to arrange for meetings in London in preparation for the establishment of the United Nations. Later it took on responsibilities for Foreign Office conferences at home and for arrangements for delegations to conferences abroad, both for Foreign Office delegates and for delegates from other departments. From 1948 it became the Conference and Supply Department. It dealt with arrangements for conferences rather than with the substance of what was to be discussed. For information about the conferences themselves see FO 371.

FO 366

Cultural Relations Department (LC)

Between 1941 and 1944 the Foreign Office Library included a British Council Section, the librarian acting as the Foreign Office's representative on the executive committee of the council. The section was enlarged in 1944 to deal with all matters of educational or cultural interest, the control of the policy and expenditure of the British Council and liaison between the council and the Foreign Office.

The records of the British Council Section are in FO 370. Those of the Cultural Relations Department are in FO 924.

Department of Overseas Trade

The department was created in 1918 as a joint Board of Trade - Foreign Office Department. It periodically controlled the office's Consular Department (qv). The department took responsibility for the Foreign Office's commercial work. Its Empire Division was concerned with India, Burma and the British dominions, colonies and protectorates. Its role was to collate and disseminate overseas commercial information and to administer commercial services abroad. It was closed in 1946.

BT 59-BT 61

Economic Intelligence Department (EID)

This department was formed in 1944 to supply the geographical departments with information about economic conditions overseas. It absorbed the work of the Economic Advisory Branch which was dissolved in 1945. Among other subjects, it monitored information on raw materials, transport and communications, agriculture, labour, cartels and trade.

FO 837

Economic Warfare Department (various designations)

The department was established in 1945 to take over the residual functions of the Ministry of Economic Warfare, including supply, purchase agreements with neutrals, blacklists and contraband controls. Its

responsibilities included monitoring colonial exports and the movement of contraband in the Caribbean. Its work gradually diminished, and it was closed in 1950.

FO 837

Information Departments (P)

With the closing down of the Ministry of Information in 1946, a number of information departments were set up within the Foreign Office to deal with foreign publicity. The Information Policy Department was concerned with general aspects of publicity and information, while separate departments handled regional information. Most of these were absorbed into the Information Policy Department in 1949; at the same time the Information Research and Information Services Departments were established. The latter ceased to function in 1954. In 1954 an additional Information Executive Department was created.

FO 930; FO 953

Library and Archives Department (L)

The first librarian of the Foreign Office was appointed in 1801. In the period under review this department was primarily responsible for the research of the Foreign Office and for providing it with relevant background information. It also dealt with enquiries from foreign sources regarding British laws, institutions, etc, and it provided information for British government departments concerning foreign countries. It collected works of reference, official publications and copies of proceedings of various international conferences of a non-political nature, such as the International Conference on Locust Control. From 1941 to 1944 the library included the British Council Section, and thereafter the librarian acted as the Foreign Office representative on the executive of the British Council. Between 1946 and 1959 the library was combined with the Research Department.

FO 370

News Department (P)

The department was set up in 1914 to collect information from the foreign press, supply information to and monitor the London press and carry out propaganda work abroad. After the war, the News Department was responsible for providing information and publicity abroad, but in 1934 it lost its responsibility for cultural propaganda to the British Council, and in 1939 most of its functions were transferred to the Ministry of Information. The News Department continued to liaise between the political departments of the Foreign Office and the Ministry of Information.

FO 395

Prisoners of War Department (K/W)

A Consular (War) Department, later renamed Prisoners of War Department, was established in 1941 to deal with British and enemy prisoners of war and interned civilians. It was also responsible for the welfare of British subjects and property in enemy and enemy occupied territories.

FO 916

Treaty Department (T)

The Treaty Department was established as the Treaty and Royal Letter Department in 1813. It was responsible for the preparation of formal documents of diplomatic representation and treaty negotiation, and dealt also with questions of protocol. The department was concerned with procedure relating to treaties, conventions and other international instruments such as diplomatic privilege, the status of British protected persons, territorial waters, deportations and formal procedure in British Commonwealth foreign relations. For records relating to the basis upon which treaties were negotiated see FO 371.

FO 83; FO 93; FO 94; FO 372

5.3 LIST OF COUNTRIES, REGIONS AND SUBJECTS INDICATING THE FOREIGN OFFICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE

5.3.1 Countries and Regions

Countries or Regions	Department Responsible, Departmental Code and Years Covered	Country Codes and Year Introduced/ Changed
ABYSSINIA (Ethiopia from 1934)	Egyptian (J) 1925-1948 African (J) 1949-1957	1, JA 1950
AFGHANISTAN	Far Eastern (F) 1947-1951 South-East Asia (D) 1952-1957	97, FA 1958 DA 1950
AFRICA (GENERAL)	American (A) 1925-1929 Egyptian (J) 1930-1937, 1939, 1942-1948	60, J 1949
ALBANIA	Central (C) 1925-1933 Southern (R) 1934-1951, 1955-1957 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954	90, RA 1950, 1955 WA 1952

AMERICA (UNITED STATES/ USA from 1943)	American (A) 1925-1933, 1934-1944, 1950-1957 North American (AN) 1945-1949	51, 45 1944, AU 1950
ARABIA	Eastern (E) 1925-1957	91, EA 1950
ARGENTINA	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South American (A) 1945-1949	2, AA 1952
AUSTRIA	Central (C) 1925-1933, 1944, 1952-1954 Southern (R) 1934-1938, 1955-1957 German (C) 1945-1951 German Economic (CE) Western & Southern (W) 1954	3, CA 1951 WR 1954 RR 1955
BALTIC STATES	Northern (N) 1925-1957	59, NB 1950
BELGIAN CONGO	African (J) 1949-1957	104, JB 1950
BELGIUM (Belgium and Luxembourg from 1930)	Western (W) 1925-1955, 1950-1951 1955-1957 Central (C) 1934-1944, 1952-1954 Western (Z) 1945-1949 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954	4, WB 1950
BERLIN	Central (C) 1952-1954	CB 1952
BOLIVIA	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1949	5, AX 1952
BRAZIL	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1949	6, AB 1952
BULGARIA	Central (C) 1925-1933 Southern (R) 1934-1951 Northern (N) 1952-1957	7, RB 1950 NG 1952
BURMA	Far Eastern (F) 1947-1951 South-East Asia (D) 1952-1957	79, FB 1950 DB 1954
CAMBODIA	South-East Asia (D) 1957	DU 1957

CENTRAL AMERICA	American (A) 1925-1944 South American (AS) 1945-1946 North American (AN) 1947-1948	8
CENTRAL ASIA (Listed as separate countries from 1949)	Northern (N) 1925-1940 Eastern (E) 1941-1948	97
CHILE	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1949	9, AC 1952
CHINA	Far Eastern (F) 1925-1950, 1952-1957 Far Eastern & South-East Asia (F) 1951	10, FC 1950
COLOMBIA (Columbia from 1952)	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1949	11, AL 1952
COSTA RICA (see also Panama)	North America (AN) 1949 American (A) 1925, 1950-1957	32, 49 1949, AR 1951
CUBA	American (A) 1925-1955, 1950-1957 North American (AN) 1945-1949	14, AK 1952
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	Central (C) 1925-1933, 1938-1944 Southern (R) 1934-1937 Northern (N) 1945-1957	12, NC 1950
DENMARK	Northern (N) 1925-1957	15, ND 1950
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	North American (AN) 1949 American (A) 1950-1957	52, AD 1950
EAST GERMANY	Central (C) 1952-1954	CS
ECUADOR	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South America (AS) 1945-1949	54, AE 1950
EGYPT (AND SUDAN to 1955 when they separated)	Egyptian (J) 1925-1948 African (J) 1949-1955, 1956-1957 (Sudan only) 1956-1957 (Egypt only)	16, JE 1950 JS 1956 (Sudan) JE 1956 (Egypt)

EL SALVADOR	Northern American (AN) 1949 American (A) 1950-1957	95, AS 1950
ETHIOPIA	See ABYSSINIA	
FINLAND	Northern (N) 1925-1957	56, NF 1950
FRANCE	Western (W) 1925-1933, 1950-1951, 1955-1957 Central (C) 1934-1940, 1952-1954 French 1941-1944 Western (Z) 1945-1949 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954	17, WF 1950 (CF 1954)
FRENCH AFRICA	French (Z) 1943-1944 Western (Z) 1945-1948 Africa (J) 1949-1957	69, JF 1950
FRENCH INDO-CHINA	Far Eastern (F) 1947-1951 South-East Asia 1952-1956	86, FF 1950
FRENCH OCEANIA	Far Eastern (F) 1950-1953 South-East Asia 1954	171, FG 1950
GERMAN GENERAL	German General (CG) 1948-1949 German (C) 1950-1952 General (G) 1953	184, CJ 1950 CEW 1952 GE 1953
GERMANY (WEST GERMANY)	Central (C) 1925-1944, 1952-1954 German (C) 1945-1951 German Economic (CE) 1947 German General Economic (CJ) 1947-1950 Western (W) 1955-1957	18, CW 1951 CS 1951-1954 WG 1955
GREECE	Central (C) 1925-1944 Southern (R) 1934-1951, 1955-1957 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954	19, RG 1950 WG 1952
HAITI AND SAN DOMINGO	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 North American (AN) 1945-1949	20, AT 1950
HEJAZ AND NEJD (under Saudi Arabia after 1933)	Eastern (E) 1931-1933	25

HONDURAS	North American (AN) 1949 American (A) 1950-1957	64, AH 1950
HUNGARY	Central (C) 1925-1933, 1939-1944 Southern (R) 1934-1938, 1945-1951 Northern (N) 1952-1957	21, RH 1950 NH 1952
IRAQ	Eastern (E) 1929-1957 Levant (V) 1954-1957	93, EQ 1950 VQ 1954
ISRAEL	Eastern (E) 1949-1953 Levant (V) 1954-1957	131, ER 1950 VR 1954
ITALIAN COLONIES	African (J) 1949-1951	122, JT 1950
ITALY	Central (C) 1925-1934 Southern (R) 1935-1944 Western-Italy (ZM) 1945-1946 Western (Z) 1947-1949 Western (W) 1950-1951 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954	22, WT 1950
JAPAN	Far Eastern (F) 1925-1950, 1952-1957 Far Eastern & South-East Asia (F) 1951	23, FJ 1950
JUGO-SLAVIA (Yugoslavia from 1931)	Central (C) 1925-1934 Southern (R) 1935-1951, 1955-1957 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954	92, RY 1950
LAOS	South-East Asia (D) 1957	DF
LEBANON	Eastern (E) 1944-1954 Levant (V) 1955-1957	88, EL 1950 VL 1954
LIBERIA	American (A) 1925-1929 Egyptian (J) 1930-1940 French (Z) 1941-1944 Western (Z) 1945-1948 African (J) 1949-1950, 1952-1957	24, JL 1950
LUXEMBOURG	See BELGIUM	

MEXICO	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 North American (AN) 1945-1949	26, AM 1950
MOROCCO	Western (W) 1925-1939 Central (C) 1939-1942, 1944 Western (Z) 1945-1948 African (J) 1949-1957	28, JM 1950
NETHERLANDS	Western (W) 1925-1936, 1959-1951, 1955-1957 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954 Central (C) 1954	29, WN 1950 CN 1954
NORWAY	Northern (N) 1925-1957	30, NN 1950
PALESTINE	See TRANS-JORDAN	
PANAMA (and Costa Rica 1926-1948)	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1946 North American (AN) 1947-1949	32, AP 1950
PARAGUAY	American (A) 1925-1955, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1949	33, AY 1951
PERSIA	Eastern (E) 1925-1957	34, EP 1950
PERU	American (A) 1925, 1927-1944, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1949	35, AF 1950
POLAND	Northern (N) 1925-1933, 1946-1957 Central (C) 1934-1945	55, NP 1950
PORTUGAL	Western (W) 1925-1939, 1950-1953 Central (C) 1939-1944 Western (Z) 1945-1949 Western & Southern (W) 1954 Southern (R) 1955-1957	36, WP 1950 RP 1955
PORTUGUESE AFRICA	Africa (J) 1949-1957	136, JP 1950
ROMANIA	Central (C) 1925-1934 Southern (R) 1935-1951 Northern (N) 1952-1957	37, RR 1950 NR 1952

RUSSIA (Soviet Union from 1936)	Northern (N) 1925-1957	38, NS 1950
SIAM (Thailand from 1957)	Far Eastern (F) 1925-1950 Far Eastern & South-East Asia (F) 1951 South-East Asia (F) 1952-1957	40, FS 1950 DS 1954
SPAIN	Western (W) 1925-1939, 1950-1953 Central (C) 1939-1944 Western (Z) 1945-1949 Western & Southern (W) 1954 Southern (R) 1955-1957	41, WS 1950 RS 1955
SUDAN	See EGYPT (AND SUDAN)	
SWEDEN	Northern (N) 1925-1957	42, NW 1950
SWITZERLAND	Western (W) 1925-1936, 1950-1951, 1955-1957 Southern (R) 1937-1938 Central (C) 1939-1944, 1952-1954 Western (Z) 1945-1949 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954	43, WD 1950
SYRIA	Eastern (E) 1925-1953 Levant (V) 1954-1957	89, EY 1950 VY 1954
THAILAND	See SIAM	
TRANS-JORDAN & PALESTINE (Palestine and Transjordan from 1933, Jordan in 1950, Palestine from 1946)	Eastern (E) 1931-1953 Levant (V) 1954-1957	31, Transjordan becomes 80 in 1946, EE 1950 (Palestine) ET 1950 (Jordan) VE 1954 (Palestine) VJ 1954 (Jordan)
TURKEY	Eastern (E) 1925-1939 Southern (R) 1940-1951, 1955-1957 Western & Southern (W) 1952-1954	44, RK 1950 WK 1952 RK 1955

UNITED STATES (America before 1943)	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 North American (AN) 1945-1949	51, 45 in 1944 AU 1950
URUGUAY	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1949	46, AW 1950
VENEZUELA	American (A) 1925-1944, 1950-1957 South American (AS) 1945-1949	47, AV 1950
VIETNAM	South-East Asia (D) 1957	DV
WEST GERMANY	See GERMANY	
YEMEN	Eastern (E) 1952-1957	EM 1952
YUGOSLAVIA	See JUGO-SLAVIA	

5.3.2 Subjects

Subject Headings	Department Responsible, Departmental Code and Years Covered	Subject Code and Year Introduced/ Changed
ADMINISTRATION (LIBERATED TERRITORIES)	Economic and Reconstruction (U) 1943-1944 Reconstruction (U) 1945	74
ALLIED ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS	General (W) 1942-1947	64
ARMS TRAFFIC	Western (W) 1925-1938	95
ATOMIC ENERGY	General (G) 1950-1954	GE 1950
BAGHDAD PACT	Levant (V) 1957	VB
BLOCKADE	General (W) 1944-1945	75
CABLE & WIRELESS	General (W) 1941-1944	801
CENSORSHIP	General (W) 1942-1945	804

COMMERCIAL AVIATION (Civil Aviation from 1945)	Western (W) 1926-1940 General (W) 1941-1949 General (G) 1950-1955	802, GA 1950
COMMONWEALTH LIAISON	General (W) 1947-1949 General (G0) 1950 Commonwealth Liaison (B) 1951-1952	68, GC 1950
COMMUNICATIONS & TRANSIT	Western (W) 1931-1940 General (W) 1943-1951, 1954	13, GY 1950
CONTRACT LABOUR	American (A) 1925-1929	52
CO-ORDINATION	Western (W) 1939-1941 General (W) 1942-1943	
DOMINIONS INTELLIGENCE	Western (W) 1939-1940 General (W) 1941-1946	68
ECONOMIC	Western (W) 1939-1940 Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1942-1944 Economic (UE) 1945-1950 Relief (UR) 1945-1946 Supply & Relief (UR) 1947 Economic Relations (UE) 1925-1957	UEE 1950
EDUCATION	General (C) 1952	CD
EXCHANGE CONTROL	General (W) 1946	
FOREIGN RESEARCH & PRESS SERVICE	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1942-1944 Reconstruction (U) 1945	
FUEL & POWER	General (W) 1944-1947	76
GENERAL HEALTH	Western (W) 1927	94
HEALTH	Western (W) 1927-1936	94

INTERNATIONAL RIVERS (& TRANSPORT)	Central (C) 1925-1933 Southern (R) 1934-1938 Western (W) 1939-1940 General (G) 1941-1942, 1944-1957	96, GR 1950
LEAGUE OF NATIONS	Western (W) 1925-1939 Central (C) 1940-1944 Reconstruction (U) 1945 United Nations (UN) 1946	98
MISCELLANEOUS	Western (W) 1939-1940 General (W) 1941-1948 General (G) 1952-1957	G 1950
MUTUAL AID	Mutual Aid (M) 1952-1957	M
OPIUM	Far Eastern (F) 1925-1942 Central (C) 1943 Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1944-1946 United Nations Economic (UNE) 1947-1948	87
PEACEMAKING	Peacemaking (U) 1946-1947	79, U
PLANNING	General (W) 1949	500, ZP 1950
POSTAL SERVICES	General (W) 1946-1948 General (G) 1951-1952	804, GM 1950
POST-WAR RELIEF	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1942-1944	73
RECONSTRUCTION	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1942-1944 Reconstruction (U) 1945-1946	70
REFUGEES	Western (W) 1939-1940 General (W) 1941-1944 Refugees (WR) 1945-1950 United Nations (US) 1954-1957 General (G) 1955-1957	48, WR 1950 USR 1954 GP 1955 and UNR in 1957

RELIEF: FINANCE	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1944 Relief (UR) 1945-1946 Supply & Relief (UR) 1947	852
RELIEF: GENERAL	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1944 Relief (UR) 1945-1946 Supply & Relief (UR) 1947	850
RELIEF: HEALTH & WELFARE	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1944 Relief (UR) 1945-1946 Refugees (WR) 1947 Supply & Relief (UR) 1947	853
RELIEF: SUPPLIES	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1944 Relief (UR) 1945-1946 Supply & Relief (UR) 1947	851
RELIEF: VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1944 Relief (UR) 1945-1946 Refugees (WR) 1947	854
REPARATION & RESTITUTION	Economic (UE) 1945-1947	77
SAFEHAVEN	General (G) 1953	GES
SHIPPING	General (W) 1942-1948 General (G) 1950-1952, 1954-1956	58, GS 1950
SLAVERY & NATIVE LABOUR	Western (W) 1930-1939	52
SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION	Far Eastern (F) 1949-1953 South-East Asia (D) 1954	161, FR 1950 DR 1954
SPECIAL RESEARCH	Economic Relations (UE) 1951 General (G) 1954-1955	UEW 1951
SUPPLIES	Economic & Reconstruction (U) 1942-1944 Economic (UE) 1945-1950 Economic Relations (UE) 1951-1957	71, UES 1950
TELE- COMMUNICATIONS	General (W) 1945-1949 General (G) 1950-1957	801, GT 1950

TERRITORIAL WATERS	General (G) 1950-1957	TW 1950 GW 1952
UNESCO	United Nations (US) 1954-1957	USE 1954 UNE 1957
WAR ADMINISTRATIVE	General (W) 1944-1947	49
WAR CRIMES	Reconstruction (U) 1945-1946 Peacemaking (U) 1947	73

5.4 EMBASSIES, LEGATIONS AND CONSULATES

An embassy is a diplomatic post the head of which is an ambassador; a legation is one headed by a minister; either might be called a mission. Consular posts may be consulates general, consulates or vice-consulates depending on the rank of their head. Consular posts within a country are subject to the control of the head of the mission in that country, if one exists.

Technically, the channel of communication of an embassy is direct with the Foreign Office in London and the ministry of foreign affairs in the host country, whereas a consulate communicates with a wide range of offices in both countries, a difference reflected in the organization of their respective archives.

Certain consulates are charged with extra-territorial jurisdiction over British subjects; in some cases they handle disputes arising between British subjects and members of the local population. This jurisdiction is conferred by treaty and regulated by order in council.

Embassies, legations and consulates keep their own archives until they are returned to London and transferred like other Foreign Office records to the Public Record Office. Their archives are placed in embassy and consular archive classes arranged by country.

Embassy and consular archives at the Public Record Office are described in more detail in Section 5.6.2.

5.5 SPECIAL AGENCIES

5.5.1 Ministers Resident

During the Second World War certain Cabinet ministers were appointed to reside in places overseas. They were charged with relieving military commanders of some political responsibilities, co-ordinating the activities of the different British authorities, liaising with representatives of allied governments and taking emergency decisions on the spot. There were at various times ministers of state resident in the Middle East and ministers resident in Singapore, West Africa and at Allied Force Headquarters in Algiers. There was also a minister resident for supply in Washington during the war from November 1942. Correspondence received from them will be found in the records of the relevant Foreign Office

political department and of other relevant Whitehall departments. In addition, records of the offices of two of the resident ministers were returned to London and now form part of the Foreign Office records. See the descriptions of FO 660 and FO 921 in Section 5.6.4.1.

Minister of State Resident in Cairo

The post was created in July 1941. The minister was a direct representative of the War Cabinet. His rather vague mandate was to provide political guidance to the military and settle such matters as he could within the terms of British policy. He was responsible for all imperial land forces in the area and allied forces assigned there, and acted as a supreme executive head. He operated out of a small office in Cairo with a branch in Baghdad. With the planned closure of this office, the Middle East Defence Committee also lapsed. The office ceased to exist in 1945 and was succeeded by the British Middle East Office (qv) which continued with essentially the same duties.

FO 921 (See also PREM 3/305/1-10)

Minister Resident at Allied Force Headquarters in North West Africa (Algiers)

The minister resident was appointed in December 1942 to provide a political element at a military headquarters where the command was American. From 1943 to 1944 he was also responsible for contacts with the French Committee of National Liberation at Algiers before the appointment of a special United Kingdom representative committee early in 1944.

FO 660

5.5.2 Middle East Supply Centre (MESC)

The centre was founded in April 1941 and operated from Cairo until 1945. Following the formal entry of the USA into the war in December 1941 it became a combined operation, with joint policies and personnel. Its successor body was the British Middle East Office (qv).

MESC was responsible for regulating the flow of civil imports to the Middle East and north-east Africa. It also promoted the development of local production of foodstuffs, restricted demands for essential goods, assisted local governments to utilize imports efficiently and provided a centre to exchange information on agro-economics. It was run locally by a small executive council which included representatives of the military and commercial concerns and the commercial secretary of the British Embassy. Policy matters were under the purview of a sub-committee of the Middle East War Council. MESC was represented on a variety of committees and organizations, such as the Standing Committee of the Agricultural Development Conference, the Policy Committee of the Agricultural Development Conference, the Policy Committee of the North Africa Joint Economic Mission and the Joint Egypto-Anglo-American Supplies Board. See also the MESC entry in Section 9.2.2.

FO 922

5.5.3 British Middle East Office (BMEO)

The BMEO took over the residual responsibilities of the office of the minister of state resident in Cairo (qv) and the Middle East Supply Centre (qv) in 1945. It was intended to co-ordinate policy for all the Middle East at one point (Cairo), and to offer technical and scientific advice to governments in matters of social and economic development. It was a consulate separate from the British embassy in Egypt operating from Cairo and its head was of ambassadorial rank. However, it combined greater powers and scope than an ordinary consulate since it was relatively autonomous and was active in its support of local projects.

The BMEO was directed by Foreign Office staff, but it employed a number of consultant experts in various fields. It made recommendations on policy in the region, superintended the work of its Development Division and briefed the UK delegation to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. A separate Development Division, based in Beirut with its own administrative head, was set up in early 1946 with the aim to promote improvements to public health, irrigation programmes and public works. The BMEO had no political responsibilities in its first two years, but this changed following a Foreign Office review in 1947 when it took on new functions, including responsibility for briefing the commander in chief Middle East Forces on the political situation, proffering political advice and summoning the Middle East Conference.

FO 957

5.5.4 Foreign Office Administration of African Territories (FOAAT)

FOAAT was set up March 1949 to take over arrangements for continuing British administration of the four former Italian colonies in Africa - Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, Eritrea and Somalia - from the War Office. The new establishment became responsible for day-to-day questions affecting the strategic position of the territories; external relations were the responsibility of the Foreign Office African Department. Within the first year Somalia had been transferred to Italian trusteeship. In December 1951 Cyrenaica and Tripolitania were federated with Fezzan to form the independent Kingdom of Libya. The office was closed in 1952 after the last territory, Eritrea, had been federated with the Ethiopian Empire.

FO 1015

5.5.5 Special Commissioner, later Commissioner General for South-East Asia

A special commissioner of ambassadorial status was appointed in October 1945 to co-ordinate British activities in the Far East and the Pacific. The post of special commissioner, for which the Foreign Office was responsible, was amalgamated in 1948 with that of the governor-general of Malaya and commissioner-general for the United Kingdom in South-East Asia. The commissioner-general was responsible jointly to the foreign secretary and the colonial secretary until 1955, when he began to report directly to the prime minister. He chaired the British Defence Co-ordinating Committee, Far East. He advised on general problems affecting the conduct of foreign affairs in the region and liaised

with international agencies. By 1960 the status of the post was much reduced.

CO 953; FO 1091

5.6 SUMMARIES OF RELEVANT CLASSES

5.6.1 General Correspondence

The general correspondence classes comprise the main archives of the Foreign Office. They consist of the original despatches from British representatives abroad, including any enclosures, drafts of outgoing despatches and minutes, as well as domestic correspondence with foreign representatives in Britain, with other branches of the British government and with private individuals and bodies. The political class, FO 371, contains the papers of all the political departments from 1906. The other classes contain the papers of the departments after which they are named. See Section 5.7.2.2 for information on how to use the general correspondence.

FO 366 Chief Clerk's Department and successors: Records, 1719 to 1965, 3555 volumes, files, etc

The files pertain broadly to the internal organization and administration of the Foreign Office. They relate to colonial affairs whenever staffing matters or the organization and remit of departments or sections involved in dependent territories were addressed.

FO 370 Library and Research Department: General Correspondence from 1906, 1906 to 1965, 2813 volumes and files

The class includes reports, correspondence, bulletins, etc, covering a wide range of topics. It contains British Council records for the years 1941 to 1944 (see also the BW classes which are described in Chapter 7) as well as material relating to conferences, health or miscellaneous issues. Of particular colonial relevance are files of yellow fever and malaria control (1945), progress reports of the Tsetse Fly Committee (1947), British Empire Forestry Conference Papers (1947) and reports on foreign medical practitioners working in the colonies (1948).

FO 371 Political Departments: General Correspondence from 1906, 1906 to 1965, 179,140 volumes, files, extracts and folios

These are the records of the political departments and this is the most important Foreign Office record class. There are also records of political significance in other classes. See Sections 5.2 and 5.7.2.2. FO 371/96642-102560 are listed in *List and Index Society*, volume 230.

- FO 372 Treaty Department and successors: General Correspondence from 1906, 1906 to 1965, 7984 volumes and files

These records concern the creation and implementation of large-scale political treaties, including those relating to the United Nations, as well as smaller international agreements on topics such as posts, extradition, commonwealth, privileges, territorial waters and nationality questions. There are also commodity agreements, such as those regulating the International Rubber Regulations in 1939 and the International Sugar Agreement of 1937. The records of the Nationality Section include files on immigration into Palestine, and a large number of individual cases.

- FO 395 News Department: General Correspondence from 1906, 1916 to 1939, 666 volumes

Among the subjects addressed after 1938, from which date the file titles are listed, are British cultural propaganda abroad, co-ordination of empire news services and matters relating to broadcasting overseas. The records reflect the department's role as the point of contact between the Foreign Office and home, empire and foreign press and the Home and Overseas and European News services of the BBC. Most of the files are of a routine or technical nature. Others are concerned with the empire news services and measures to counter anti-British propaganda throughout the empire. There is also information on work of the British Council.

- FO 627 Dominions Information Department: General Correspondence from 1906, 1929 to 1933, 58 volumes

The files reflect the Dominions Information Department's responsibility to liaise with and supply information to Australia, Canada, South Africa and New Zealand. They address general questions, such as the usefulness of supplying the dominions with copies of treaty engagements between two foreign countries and the correct terminology regarding the dominions and diplomacy, together with specific issues such as UK-Australia tariffs (1933). For additional records of the Dominions Information Department see FO 372.

- FO 850 Communications Department: General Correspondence from 1906 (Y and DSY series), 1936 to 1965, 338 volumes, files, photographs

The files concern arrangements for bag and wireless services, security of buildings, transport services, etc.

- FO 916 War of 1939-1945: Consular (War) Department: Prisoners of War and Internees, 1939 to 1948, 2612 files

The class includes reports from various sources on prisoners of war and internment camps in enemy and enemy-occupied countries. The files occasionally concern the

welfare of British subjects abroad and Germans interned in British colonies, including Nigeria and Tanganyika. Later reports are in WO 224.

- FO 924 Cultural Relations Department: General Correspondence from 1906, 1944 to 1965, 1550 files

The files mainly concern the British Council, which was involved in educational and cultural activities overseas. There was a separate colonial section within the council for the period 1945 to 1947. The topics include the training of overseas students in the UK, the future of the British Council, its aims and objectives and the work of other international agencies. There are also files on the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education. See FO 395 (1938-1939), FO 370 (1941-1944) and BW classes (in Chapter 7) for other records on the British Council.

- FO 953 Information Departments: General Correspondence from 1906, 1947 to 1965, 2207 files

These are files of the various information departments established in the Foreign Office after 1946 dealing with overseas publicity and information policy. They cover propaganda in the Middle East, publicity in the empire, the attempt by the British government to counter anti-colonial sentiments (mainly by the Latin American section) and anti-British sentiment in the USA on the Palestine issue in 1948.

5.6.2 Embassy and Consular Archives

These records, kept by British embassies and consular posts, were returned to the Foreign Office somewhat irregularly, sometimes in response to instructions from the office but usually when space was short. They are less complete than the general correspondence classes, but they may well contain material of local interest which is not replicated in the Whitehall end of the correspondence. They consist of the original despatches received from the Foreign Office and draft despatches to London as well as local correspondence with the government and other authorities of the foreign state, with other British representatives and agents and with private individuals. They may also include such local records as registers of births, deaths and marriages of British subjects abroad, consular court records, commercial records of many sorts, papers about British churches and cemeteries and the estates of British subjects. For some posts no records, or only registers, have been permanently preserved. There are many gaps in the classes of embassy and consular records, resulting from accidental losses, deliberate destruction in time of emergency to avoid the risk of papers falling into hostile hands, or rejection for permanent preservation. The list which follows indicates many of the classes in this category which are likely to contain relevant material. There will undoubtedly be others.

- FO 115 Embassy and Consular Archives United States of America: Correspondence, 1791 to 1956, 4608 volumes and files

There is a great deal of material of possible interest for the period from 1925 to 1950, although less thereafter. Numerous files relate to the British dependencies and to general aspects of UK colonial policy in such areas as shipping and smuggling. There

is extensive material on the establishment of US military bases throughout the Caribbean region (1941-1950). The bulk of the wartime files concern North American supplies, including material relating to the British Purchasing Commission, the British Supply Council in North America, the British Raw Materials Mission, war trade allocations to dependent territories and the regulation of exports from colonies. There is also material on Palestine, policy in the Middle East and American public opinion on British colonial policy.

- FO 123 Embassy and Consular Archives Belgium: Correspondence, 1831 to 1955, 656 volumes and files

The class is composed of letter books, registers of correspondence and original correspondence, but no correspondence has survived for the period 1915 to 1940. From 1941 there are a few files relating to the Belgian Congo which have a bearing on UK territories in Africa. For instance, a file on supply routes to the Middle East in 1942 relates to an international committee created to co-ordinate technical operations and transport facilities in the Congo basin.

- FO 141 Embassy and Consular Archives Egypt: Correspondence, 1815 to 1952, 1474 volumes, etc

No material exists for the period 1930 to 1941. There is a good index to the class which contains numerous references to the Sudan. There is also wartime material on the administration of Cyrenaica and Tripolitania, the post-war future of Tripolitania, the future defence and administration of the Suez Canal, US and UK co-operation in the Middle East and colonial forces.

- FO 160 Embassy and Consular Archives Libya (Tripoli): Letter Books and Correspondence, 1700 to 1948, 102 volumes and files

There are only a few relevant files, for instance those relating to aviation policy (1945-1946) and to the Tripolitania/Cyrenaica boundary (1948).

- FO 624 Embassy and Consular Archives Iraq: Correspondence, 1921 to 1964, 241 boxes and files

There is a detailed list of the class which includes files of the Baghdad High Commission from 1921 to 1932. Among the topics are UK-Iraq defences, shipping in the Persian Gulf, the development of British oil interests, the Empire Air Mail Service in 1937, migration to Palestine and Iraqi relations with other Middle Eastern countries.

- FO 628 Embassy and Consular Archives Thailand: Correspondence, 1856 to 1958, 99 boxes and files, etc

There are some files relating to relations between Malaya and Siam.

- FO 643 Embassy and Consular Archives Burma: Correspondence, 1942 to 1962, 163 boxes, volumes, files, etc

The class contains records of the Burma Secretariat (in exile in India until October 1945 and afterwards in Rangoon), inherited by HM embassy in Rangoon under an agreement between the Foreign Office and the Burma Office, London. Among the topics covered is the registration of Burmese and Malaysians in India in 1943. Although the records mainly relate to internal affairs, a few pieces have an international bearing, such as those on the Rice Study Group in 1947, the Singapore Conference and Burma oil. There is material on the Commonwealth Relations Committee on the future of Burma in 1944 and records of a survey of co-ordination within the territories of South-East Asia in 1946.

- FO 816 Embassy and Consular Archives Jordan: Correspondence, 1920 to 1954, 196 files

These are the files of the residency and the legation at Amman. Among the topics covered are development schemes, the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, the revision of the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty (1946-1948); oil exploration and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company Ltd (1938-1947); the partition of Palestine (1948); and Middle East affairs generally.

- FO 891 Embassy and Consular Archives Egypt: Alexandria, 1900 to 1956, 223 files

Most pieces date from 1927. Many files concern British educational institutions in the area.

- FO 961 United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations: Correspondence and Papers, 1946 to 1950, 13 files

There is a file on South West Africa (1948).

- FO 1016 Embassy and Consular Archives: Persian Gulf Residencies and Agencies, 1917 to 1966, 730 files and books

Files of the British residency and agencies at Muscat, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Sharjah, Abu Dhabi and Dubai (the Trucial States). Some pre-date the transfer of responsibility from the India Office to the Foreign Office in 1948. The topics include frontier questions, boundary disputes, British Council activities, oil concessions in Muscat and Qatar-Saudi Arabia political relations.

- FO 1018 Embassy and Consular Archives Lebanon: Correspondence, 1946 to 1962, 120 files

The subjects addressed include the Jewish question, Palestinian refugees and UK relations with Lebanon in 1953.

FO 1021 Embassy and Consular Archives Libya: Correspondence, 1947 to 1962, 153 files

The earliest records in this class were created by the British resident in Benghazi during the period of British Administration. After December 1951 they are the records of the British Embassy in the Kingdom of Libya. The records generally relate to internal matters but also to the Board of Economic Development; they include its minutes and papers for 1950 to 1951. There are some files relating to the Anglo-Libyan Treaty in 1953.

See also FO 1015.

5.6.3 Confidential Print

The Foreign Office printed selected correspondence, minutes and other important papers for circulation to representatives abroad as well as to officials in the Foreign Office, members of the Cabinet and other government departments. A print might be a single document or a substantial volume of correspondence. The volume of documents printed had increased significantly in the late nineteenth century but declined as the twentieth century progressed. The confidential print series are arranged by country, geographical area or subject.

FO 403 Confidential Print Africa, 1834 to 1957, 482 volumes

The class includes correspondence relating to Africa, including Madagascar, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia (to 1951), the Suez Canal and Egypt (1942 to 1946) and Abyssinia (intermittently to 1946). Topics include the slave trade in Africa (1925-1941), especially in Libya and French Somaliland; and the protection of British government interests as regards British receivership of Liberian customs.

FO 406 Confidential Print Eastern Affairs, 1812 to 1946, 84 volumes

The class includes correspondence relating to Arabia, Iraq, Palestine, Syria and the Levant, besides others.

FO 407 Confidential Print Egypt and the Sudan, 1839 to 1958, 237 volumes

Among the topics covered are the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty Negotiations of 1935 to 1936. The volumes are closed from 1947.

See also FO 403 and FO 552.

FO 411 Confidential Print League of Nations, 1924 to 1941, 22 volumes

FO 412 Confidential Print Miscellaneous, 1836 to 1927, 118 volumes

FO 413 Confidential Print Morocco and North West Africa, 1839 to 1957, 99 volumes

- FO 415 Confidential Print Opium, 1910 to 1941, 31 volumes
- FO 420 Confidential Print America, South and Central, 1833 to 1941, 294 volumes
- FO 422 Confidential Print Siam and South-East Asia, 1882 to 1956, 101 volumes
- The correspondence relates to Siam (Thailand), Burma and the countries forming part of Indo-China, Indonesia and the Malayan Peninsula, but excluding Borneo and Sulu. See also FO 436.
- FO 423 Confidential Print Suez Canal, 1859 to 1947, 70 volumes
- The class contains routine reports relating to the management of the canal, including statistical analyses and printed correspondence on the renewal of the concession in 1936. See also FO 403.
- FO 425 Confidential Print Western Europe, 1769 to 1956, 433 volumes
- FO 426 Confidential Print Inter-Imperial Relations, 1926 to 1938, 5 volumes
- FO 431 Confidential Print Cultural Propaganda, 1919 to 1938, 4 volumes
- FO 433 Confidential Print Economic Affairs, General, 1932 to 1939, 6 volumes
- The class relates to economic and trade conferences, economic surveys and trade statistics.
- FO 435 Confidential Print Burma, 1947 to 1957, 10 volumes
- Most pieces closed for 50 years.
- FO 436 Confidential Print Far Eastern Affairs, 1937 to 1956, 25 volumes
- Correspondence relating to China, Japan, Nepal, Siam and South-East Asia. The volumes from 1947 onwards contain general correspondence only.
- FO 437 Confidential Print Jordan, 1949 to 1957, 9 volumes
- Closed for 50 years.
- FO 464 Confidential Print Arabia, 1947 to 1957, 12 volumes
- Most pieces closed for 50 years.
- FO 468 Confidential Print British Commonwealth, 1945 to 1949, 4 volumes

Closed for 50 years. See also CO 426.

FO 474 Confidential Print Indo-China, 1947 to 1956, 10 volumes

FO 475 Confidential Print General Affairs, 1942 to 1956, 13 volumes

Includes material on economic and financial issues, the United Nations, the world situation and other general matters.

Most pieces closed for 50 years.

FO 479 Confidential Print India, Pakistan and Ceylon, 1947 to 1949, 3 volumes

Closed for 50 years.

FO 481 Confidential Print Iraq, 1947 to 1957, 11 volumes

Most pieces closed for 50 years.

FO 487 Confidential Print Middle East, General, 1947 to 1957, 11 volumes

The files contain material relating to the Arab countries and Israel.

Most pieces closed for 50 years.

FO 492 Confidential Print Israel (Palestine), 1947 to 1957, 11 volumes

Most pieces closed for 50 years.

FO 502 Confidential Print United Nations, 1947 to 1956, 10 volumes

Most pieces closed for 50 years.

FO 533 Confidential Print Central America and the Caribbean, 1947 to 1957, 11 volumes

The class contains correspondence relating to Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and El Salvador.

Most pieces are closed for 50 years.

FO 540 Confidential Print Libya, 1951 to 1956, 6 volumes

Closed for 50 years. See also FO 403.

5.6.4 Other Records

5.6.4.1 Wartime Classes

The Second World War led to the creation of new administrative organizations and local missions, the records of which now form separate record classes. The relevant classes are:

FO 660 War of 1939 to 1945: Ministers Resident, etc, 1942 to 1945, 383 files

The class contains the surviving records of the Political Liaison Officer with the United States forces in Great Britain and North Africa, the Office of the Minister Resident at Allied Force Headquarters in Algiers and Paris, and the Office of the United Kingdom Representative with the French Committee of National Liberation at Algiers. Some of the files relate to the political situation in West Africa, the former Italian colonies and French colonial policy.

See also FO 957; and the description of the British Middle East Office in Section 5.5.3.

FO 837 Ministry of Economic Warfare, 1931 to 1951, 1338 files

These are the records of the Ministry of Economic Warfare and its successor departments in the Foreign Office, mostly for the period 1939 to 1945. Of specific relevance are files on contraband control in the Caribbean (1940-1941), freezing of Japanese assets in the British Empire (1941) and co-operation with the Dominions Office and Colonial Office to control exports (1939-1940).

FO 921 Minister of State, Cairo, 1942 to 1946, 384 files

The records are arranged under country and subject headings, such as inflation and economics, Middle East post-war planning and labour. There are files on Anglo-American relations in the Middle East (1942), Immigration into Palestine (1942) and the future work of the Middle East Economic Survey (1946).

FO 922 Middle East Supply Centre, 1938 to 1945, 472 files and volumes

This class relates to the centre's responsibilities for the supply of foodstuffs and non-war material. It covers General Spears' mission to Syria and the Lebanon, general development topics, transport, industrial production, food policy for the region (1942-1944), meetings of the Joint Egypto-Anglo-American Supplies Board (1944-1945) and the North African Joint Economic Mission (1944). See also FO 921; MT 59; T 222/89; and Section 5.5.2.

- FO 930 Ministry of Information: Foreign Publicity Files, 1938 to 1947, 529 files

These files relate to the organization of foreign publicity in the Ministry of Information before the functions were transferred to the Foreign Office in 1946 and to this transfer of responsibility. For the period after 1946 see FO 953.

- FO 953 Information Departments: General Correspondence from 1906, 1947 to 1965, 2207 files

Files of the various Information Departments in the Foreign Office; they relate to individual countries and to information policy, news and staffing issues.

- FO 957 British Middle East Office and Department of Technical Co-operation, Middle East Development Division: Registered Files, 1946 to 1983, 268 files

The records in this class concern the administration and economic and social development work of the BMEO, and events and activities in the Middle East for the period. They relate to the FAO conferences, relations with international agencies, the Middle East Economic Commission (1948), economic recovery projects, natural resource exploitation, the long-term policy on refugees in Palestine in 1949 and the policy of the British government on Middle East Development in 1950.

There are related records in FO 366, FO 922 and FO 1021 (Consular, Libya).

- FO 1015 Foreign Office Administration of African Territories, 1915 to 1952, 1033 files

The class relates to the British administration (1941-1952) of the former Italian colonies in Africa (Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, Eritrea and Somalia). These territories were the responsibility of the War Office until 1949 and subsequently of the Foreign Office. The class includes files of both departments.

See also FO 371 and FO 1021. For earlier material see WO 230.

5.6.4.2 Various

- FO 83 General Correspondence: Great Britain and General, 1745 to 1975, 2640 volumes

After 1905 the class consists of the formal records of the Treaty Department and printed consular instructions. The Treaty Department records include treaty ratifications and warrants for sealing drafts and drafts of ratifications of treaties.

- FO 93 Protocols of Treaties, 1695 to 1993, 239 volumes, etc

The protocol is the document reciting the terms of the treaty as agreed, signed and sealed by the plenipotentiaries on both sides. The class is arranged by countries or geographical areas. Information on colonial policy is found under virtually all the

names of metropolitan powers and of territories which bordered on British dependencies. For example, under 'the Netherlands' there are listed numerous treaties regulating passports and mail between British and Dutch dependencies in South-East Asia and the Caribbean from 1925. The agreements listed under 'Italy' cover, for instance, the boundary between Kenya and Italian Somaliland (1933), the recruitment of Italian labour for Kenya (1948) and the transfer to Italy of provisional administration of Somalia (1955). There are also United Nations treaties from 1945, which frequently cover agreements on behalf of non-self governing and other territories where the UK was responsible for international relations.

FO 94 Ratifications of Treaties, 1782 to 1993, 2965 volumes and boxes

The ratification is the document recording the formal acceptance of the treaty, signed and sealed by the head of state. The class is arranged by countries or geographical areas and is indexed. It pertains to minor postal conventions, arrangements, agreements, protocols and treaties, including commodities, international debts and political matters. For example, there is material on an agreement with Egypt in 1954 on the Suez Canal base evacuation and on the Phyto-Sanitary Convention for Africa south of the Sahara, which included Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

FO 800 Private Collections: Ministers and Officials: Various, 1824 to 1965, 893 volumes and files

The class consists of private office papers of secretaries of state and other high-ranking Foreign Office officials, diplomats and others connected with foreign affairs. There are miscellaneous papers relating to international conferences and foreign affairs in general between 1831 and 1945. The collections relevant to colonial affairs include Private Office Papers, with files on the Commonwealth and colonial territories (1940); the papers of Ernest Bevin with files on Africa (1946-1950), the Commonwealth and colonial territories (1945-1950); the Herbert Morrison Papers which cover Africa, the Colonial Development Corporation and Commonwealth (1951); the Harold Macmillan papers, which cover Africa, Cyprus and the Middle East (1955); and papers of Sir Anthony Eden which relate to Africa, the Commonwealth and the colonies (1951 to 1955) and Cyprus (1953-1954).

FO 867 Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, 1903 to 1971, 104 files and volumes

The class is composed of minutes and proceedings of the Governor-General's Committee (1910-1954), papers relating to the Darfur-Wadi boundary, and Sudan government gazettes from 1903.

5.7 USE OF THE RECORDS

5.7.1 Means of Reference

The Foreign Office records are described in Parts 1 (Section 802) and 2 of the *Public Record Office Guide*. There is a more detailed account in Public Record Office Handbook 13, *The Records of the Foreign Office, 1782-1939* (HMSO, 1969), which gives a history of the Foreign Office and its record keeping practices. See also PRO Records Information Leaflet 22, *The Records of the Foreign Office from 1782* and PRO Readers' Guide no 7, *Never Complain, Never Explain: Records of the Foreign Office and State Paper Office 1500 - c.1960* (London, 1994).

5.7.2 General Correspondence

5.7.2.1 Registration, 1925 to 1957

During the period covered in this guide each despatch, telegram or document received in the Foreign Office was placed, with its enclosures, in a white paper folder, known as a jacket, bearing the letter code of the appropriate department. Each department had its own separate annual series of registry numbers, and each incoming paper was stamped with the next consecutive number in the appropriate series. The registry number and the name of the country (or subject) to which the paper related were also stamped on the jacket. Minutes were recorded on the jacket, on extension sheets and on drafts. See plate 1 for an example of a jacket.

The papers of a single year dealing with a particular subject were kept together in a 'file'. The registry number of the first paper on the file constituted the file number. For most countries there tended to be recurring subjects, for instance the political situation or the economic situation, and the first papers received each year tended to be on these subjects. Subsequent papers on the same broad subject received the same file number, and new files were opened as new subjects arose. The full file reference consisted of the departmental code, the paper number, the file number, the index (country or subject) number and the year. A file could consist of just one paper or dozens of papers depending upon how the subject developed. From the beginning of 1950 the Foreign Office adopted a simplified revised filing system based on an initial letter or letters indicating the department concerned, a file number, a paper number or a sequence of paper numbers and the year.

Until 1938 the jackets were bound annually in volumes in file number and in paper number order. The papers were punched and laced between boards by cords, the spine being covered with cloth. Weeding took place before binding. Upon reaching the PRO each volume was given a unique piece number. In some cases files were so large that they cover several pieces. Binding ceased in 1938. Thereafter, before reaching the PRO the files were placed in paper folders and given piece numbers. One file was often split between several pieces.

Some Foreign Office papers were considered especially sensitive at the time of registration and were dealt with by a separate secret registry. These papers were placed in distinctive covers with a band of green stripes across the top of the first page and are known as 'green' papers. Not all green papers were

classified secret, nor were all secret papers registered 'green'. The green papers have now been integrated with the general correspondence.

5.7.2.2 How to Use the General Correspondence

Until 1938, when the papers ceased to be bound, the class lists are skeletal, with no specific information about the contents of the volume. Readers must, therefore, refer for details to the annual printed indexes which were produced by the Archives Section of the Foreign Office Library.

The Indexes (Printed Series) to General Correspondence, 1920 to 1951, are in FO 409. A set of reprints (published by Kraus-Thomson) is available in the PRO. Arranged annually, they cover subjects, persons and places. Up to 1940 there are separate annual indexes for the 'green' papers which were originally classified secret. The 'green' indexes for later years have not yet been transferred. Readers will, therefore, often see more papers in Foreign Office files on their subject than they had been led to expect from the main indexes to the general correspondence.

After 1939 the class lists are more detailed. Each piece has been listed individually with its title. Readers can therefore identify relevant material directly from the class list. However, they may still wish to consult the index, which provides references to individual papers rather than to files, since file titles are often very general and may not give a full picture of the file contents. Indexes in another format exist for 1952-53 and 1959. For 1954-58 and from 1960 readers must rely on the class lists.

The references provided in the index are Foreign Office registry numbers. They must be converted into PRO references and related to the class list before the documents can be requested. Instructions are available at the PRO. Readers should be aware that a proportion of the papers cited in the index have not survived the review process. Plate 2 shows the index entry for the paper illustrated in plate 1. Plate 3 shows the relevant entry in the FO 371 class list.

The printed indexes relate primarily to the papers in FO 371, Foreign Office General Correspondence, Political. The records have been accessioned annually to this one large class so that they can be related easily to the index. Within FO 371 each annual class list is divided into departments and then subdivided alphabetically by countries and subjects. The reader should relate the reference number and letter provided in the index to the codes provided at the front of the index volume, in order to identify the relevant department and country, and should then turn to the correct portion of the list.

The printed indexes also contain references to papers of the non-political departments of the Foreign Office. These can be identified from the departmental code at the front of each index volume and the appropriate class list should be consulted as follows:

Chief Clerk's (X)	FO 366
Claims (KC)	FO 950
Communications (Y)	FO 850
Consular (K)	FO 369
Cultural Relations (LC)	FO 924
Dominions Information (U)	FO 627 (1929-1933)

Information (P)	FO 930, FO 953 (after 1946)
Library (L)	FO 370
News (P)	FO 395
Treaty (T)	FO 372

5.8 LISTS OF FOREIGN OFFICE MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS, 1925 TO 1958

This section comprises chronological lists of ministers and officials from the level of secretary of state down to heads of departments. It should assist readers in tracing the identity of minutes initiated on files and in understanding the growth and organization of the office. For information about the hierarchy of responsibilities see Chapter 9 of Lord Strang, *The Foreign Office* (London, 1955).

The lists are arranged in order of date of appointment from the secretary of state down to under-secretary and thereafter by annual office holders.

The lists have been drawn from the *Foreign Office List*, which will provide further details on office organization and staffing. It was the practice to issue these lists in the year printed on the spine, but in fact they were normally prepared during the previous year. For consistency the dates here reflect the dates on the spines, but readers may need to check the previous or sometimes the subsequent year to locate a given individual. Where there is uncertainty, reference should be made to the statement of the officers' services in the printed *List* to confirm the date of the appointment.

PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARIES OF STATE, 1925 TO 1946

27 Nov 1920	E A Crowe
1 May 1925	W G Tyrrell
16 July 1928	R C Lindsay
1 Jan 1930	R G Vansittart
1 Jan 1938	Sir Alexander Cadogan
1 Feb 1946	Sir Orme Garton Sargent

CHIEF DIPLOMATIC ADVISER, 1938 TO 1940

1 Jan 1938	Sir Robert Vansittart
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PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARIES OF STATE, 1925 TO 1958

12 Nov 1924	Ronald McNeill
8 Dec 1925	G T L Locker-Lampson
12 June 1929	H Dalton
4 Sept 1931	R A Eden
24 Jan 1934	Earl Stanhope
5 Aug 1935	Viscount Cranborne
1 Sept 1936	Earl of Plymouth
26 Feb 1938	R A Butler

21 July 1941	R K Law
28 Sept 1943	G H Hall
29 May 1945	Lord Dunglass and Lord Lovat
5 Aug 1945	Hector McNeil
7 Oct 1946	Major C P Mayhew
1 June 1948	Lord Henderson
2 Mar 1950	E A J Davies
31 Oct 1951	A Nutting and the Marquess of Reading
12 Nov 1953	A D Dodds Parker
19 Oct 1954	R H Turton and Lord John Hope
21 Dec 1955	A D Dodds Parker
9 Dec 1956	W D Ormsby-Gore
19 Jan 1957	Earl of Gosford and Ian Harvey
28 Oct 1958	Marquess of Lansdowne
20 Jan 1959	R A Allan

ADDITIONAL PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARIES OF STATE, 1925 TO 1945

11 Nov 1924	A M Samuel
11 Nov 1927	D H Hacking
8 July 1929	G M Gillet
11 Nov 1931	D J Colville
28 Nov 1935	E Wallace
29 May 1937	R Spear Hudson
17 May 1940	H Johnstone
23 Mar 1945	G Spencer Summers

DEPUTY UNDER-SECRETARIES OF STATE, 1925 TO 1946

1 May 1925	Victor Wellesley
1 Sept 1930	C H Montgomery (chief clerk)
1 Oct 1936	Sir Alexander M G Cadogan
1 Mar 1936	Sir Lancelot Oliphant
11 Sept 1939	Sir Orme Garton Sargent
8 July 1941	R H B Lockhart (acting)
11 July 1944	D J Montagu-Douglas-Scott
25 Feb 1945	O C Harvey (Political; D J Montagu-Douglas-Scott continues for administration)

AMBASSADORS TEMPORARILY EMPLOYED IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE, 1942 TO 1945

23 Jan 1942	Sir M Peterson
19 Feb 1942	Sir B Newton
22 Nov 1942	Sir William Strang
13 May 1942	Sir George Rendel

19 Feb 1945

R I Campbell

ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARIES OF STATE, 1925 TO 1945

The date in the middle column is the precise date when the individual was appointed to the position.

1925	1 Oct 1918	W G Tyrrell	
	1 Aug 1922	C H Montgomery (chief clerk)	
	2 Feb 1924	Sir V Wellesley	
1926-1928	1 May 1925	J D Gregory C H Montgomery	
	1929	28 Feb 1928	C H Montgomery Sir Lancelot Oliphant (acting) (promotion made substantive 30 Apr 1929)
1930		15 July 1929	C H Montgomery Sir G A Mounsey Sir Lancelot Oliphant
	1931-1933		Sir G A Mounsey Sir Lancelot Oliphant
1934		22 Aug 1933	Sir Frederick Butler (Finance Officer)
	22 Aug 1933	C Howard-Smith (Principal Establishment Officer) Sir G A Mounsey Sir Lancelot Oliphant	
	14 Aug 1933	Sir Orme Garton Sargent	
1935-1936		Sir Frederick Butler Sir Lancelot Oliphant Sir G A Mounsey Sir Orme Garton Sargent C Howard-Smith	
	15 Jan 1935	Sir R L Craigie	
	1937		Sir Frederick Butler Sir R L Craigie C Howard Smith Sir G A Mounsey Sir Orme Garton Sargent

1938		Sir Frederick Butler C Howard-Smith Sir G A Mounsey Sir Orme Garton Sargent
1939	30 May 1938	C Howard Smith Sir G A Mounsey Sir Orme Garton Sargent Sir David John Montagu- Douglas-Scott
1940	1 Jan 1940 11 Sept 1939	Sir Frederick Butler Sir G A Mounsey Sir David John Montagu- Douglas-Scott Sir Horace James Seymour Sir William Strang
1941	1 Sept 1940 15 Aug 1940 26 Feb 1940	Sir David John Montagu- Douglas-Scott Sir Horace James Seymour Sir William Strang F T A Ashton-Gwatkin (chief clerk) R W A Leeper W M Codrington (acting)
1942	6 July 1942	Sir David John Montagu- Douglas-Scott Sir William Strang F T A Ashton-Gwatkin R W Leeper W M Codrington (acting) N B Ronald
1943	As for 1942 [ie all officials continue]	
1944	22 Nov 1943 17 May 1943 1945	Sir David John Montagu- Douglas-Scott F T A Ashton-Gwatkin W M Codrington (acting) N B Ronald O C Harvey (minister plenipotentiary) Sir Charles M Palairret (temporary) N B Ronald

	W M Codrington
	O C Harvey
	Sir Charles Michael Palairet
11 July 1944	N M Butler
8 June 1944	E L Hall-Patch
1 Oct 1944	J I Cormack Crombie (chief clerk)
23 Feb 1944	V F Cavendish-Bentinck (temporary)

SUPERINTENDING UNDER-SECRETARIES OF STATE (AND DEPARTMENTS COVERED), 1937 TO 1957

1937	Sir Robert Sir Robert Leslie Craigie: American Sir Orme Garton Sargent: Central, Southern Sir Lancelot Oliphant: Eastern, Northern, Egyptian Sir A Cadogan: Far Eastern, League of Nations and Western Sir G Mounsey: League of Nations and Western, Treaty C Howard-Smith: Communications, Library
1938	Pages missing from lists
1939	D J Scott: American, Consular Sir O G Sargent: Central, Southern Sir L Oliphant: Eastern, Egyptian, Northern Sir G Mounsey: Far Eastern, Western (General), Treaty Sir M Palairet: Western (General) C Howard-Smith: Communications, Library
1940	D J Scott: American, Consular, Treaty Sir William Strang: Central, General Sir A Cadogan: Dominions Intelligence, News, Political Intelligence H J Seymour: Eastern, Egyptian Sir O G Sargent: Northern, Southern Sir Frederick Butler: Communications
1941	D J Scott: American, Consular, Prisoners of War, Treaty W Strang: Central, French, General Sir A Cadogan: Dominions Intelligence, Liaison, News, Political Intelligence Sir H J Seymour: Eastern, Egyptian, Far Eastern, General (Refugee Section) Sir O G Sargent: General (Cable and Airways), Northern, Southern W M Codrington: Communications

- 1942
- W Strang: Central, French, General
 - D J Scott: Consular, North American, Prisoners of War, South American
 - R H Bruce Lockhart: Co-ordination of Propaganda
 - Sir A Cadogan: Dominions Intelligence, News, Political Intelligence
 - Sir O G Sargent: Northern, Southern
 - Sir M Peterson: Refugee
 - R Dunbar: Treaty
 - W M Codrington: Communications
- 1943
- Sir William Strang: Central, French
 - D J Scott: Consular, North American, South American, Treaty, Prisoners of War
 - Sir R H Bruce Lockhart: Co-ordination of Propaganda
 - Sir B Newton: Dominions Intelligence
 - Sir M Peterson: Eastern, Egyptian, Far Eastern, Refugee
 - N B Ronald: Economic and Reconstruction, General
 - Sir A Cadogan: News, Political Intelligence, Services Liaison
 - Sir O G Sargent: Northern, Southern
 - W M Codrington: Communications
- 1944
- O C Harvey: Central, French
 - D J Scott: Consular, North American, South American, Treaty
 - Sir B Newton: Dominions Intelligence
 - Sir M Peterson: Eastern, Egyptian, Far Eastern, Refugee
 - N B Ronald: Economic and Reconstruction, General, Research
 - Sir A Cadogan: News, Services, Liaison
 - Sir O G Sargent: Northern, Southern
 - Sir M Palaret: Prisoners of War
 - W M Codrington: Communications
- 1945
- Sir M Palaret: Cultural Relations, Prisoners of War
 - D J Scott: Consular, Treaty
 - D F H Brickell: Consular Establishments Section
 - Sir B Newton: Dominions Intelligence
 - E L Hall-Patch: Economic Relations
 - Sir R I Campbell: Far Eastern
 - J F Brewis: Far Eastern
 - A C S Adams: Far Eastern
 - N B Ronald: General, Reconstruction, Research
 - O C Harvey: German, Western
 - Sir A Cadogan: News, Services Liaison
 - N M Butler: North American, South American
 - Sir O G Sargent: Northern, Southern

Sir G Rendel: Refugee, Relief
W M Codrington: Communications

1946

D J Scott: Consular, Treaty, Library and Archives
I A Kirkpatrick: Cultural Relations
Sir B Newton: Dominions Intelligence, German (War Crimes Section)
R G Howe: Eastern, Egyptian, Communications
E L Hall-Patch: Economic and Industrial Planning Staff, Economic Relations
Sir N B Ronald: Economic Intelligence, General, Reconstruction, Research, Supply and Relief
O C Harvey: German, Western
Sir O G Sargent: News, Services Liaison
N M Butler: North American, South American
C F A Warner: Northern, Southern
J I C Crombie: Personnel, Establishment and Organization, Finance
G Rendel: Prisoners of War, Refugee, Supply and Relief

1947

I A Kirkpatrick: American Information, Cultural Relations, Eastern European Information, Far Eastern Information, Information Policy, Latin-American, Middle East Information, Western European Information
D J Scott: Archives, Claims, Consular, Dominions Intelligence (temporary), Passport Office, Passport Control, Security, Treaty
R G Howe: Communications, Eastern, Egyptian
E L Hall-Patch: Economic and Industrial Planning Staff, Economic Relations
J M Troutbeck: Economic Intelligence, General, Supply and Relief
H A Caccia: Establishment and Organization, Establishment and Finance (Information), Finance (Chief Clerk), Personnel
O C Harvey: German, Western
M E Denning: Japan and Pacific, South-East Asia, China
Sir O G Sargent: News, Services Liaison
N M Butler: North American, South American
C F A Warner: Northern, Southern
G Rendel: Refugee
H M G Jebb: Peace-making Section, United Nations

1948

C F A Warner: American Information, Cultural Relations, Eastern European Information, Far Eastern Information, Information Policy, Latin American, Middle Eastern Information, Western European Information

H A Caccia: Archives, Communications, Conferences, Establishment and Organization, Establishment and Finance (Information), Finance, Passport Office, Passport Control, Personnel, Security
 C H Bateman: Northern, Southern
 M E Dening: China, Japan and Pacific, South-East Asia
 Sir Noel Charles: Claims, Communication Liaison, Consular, South American, Treaty
 G D Kirwan: Control Service Establishment and Organization, Control Service Personnel, Control Service Recruiting, German Section (Establishment and Organization)
 R M Makins: Economic Intelligence, Economic Relations, General
 M R Wright: Egyptian, Middle Eastern Secretariat, North American, Eastern
 E L Hall Patch: Far Eastern, Economic and Industrial Planning Staff
 I A Kirkpatrick: German Education, Refugee - German and Austrian, Western, German General
 Sir Cyril Jones: German Finance, German Section Accounts
 Sir O G Sargent: News, Services Liaison
 C H Bateman: Northern, Southern
 H M G Jebb: Refugee (other than German and Austrian), United Nations (Political), United Nations (Economic and Social)

1949

C F A Warner: American Information, Cultural Relations, Eastern European Information, German Information, Information Policy, Information Research, Latin American Information, Middle Eastern Information, Western European Information
 H A Caccia: Archives, Communications, Conferences and Supply, Establishment and Organization, Finance, Passport Office, Passport Control, Personnel
 Sir Noel Charles: Claims, Commonwealth Liaison, Consular, South American, Treaty
 G D Kirwan: Control Services Establishment and Organization, Control Services Personnel, German Section Establishment and Organization, German Travel
 M R Wright: Eastern, Middle Eastern Secretariat, North American
 R M Makins: Economic Intelligence, General
 E A Berthoud: Economic Relations, European Recovery
 M E Dening: Far Eastern, South-East Asia
 R B Stevens: German Commercial Relations and Industry, German General Economic, German Supply

I A Kirkpatrick: German Education, German Internal, Refugee - German and Austrian, Western, German Political
 Sir Cyril Jones: German Finance, German Sections Accounts
 H M G Jebb: Refugee (other than German and Austrian), United Nations (Political), United Nations (Economic and Social)
 E J Passant: Research and Library
 W G Hayter: Security, Services Liaison
 C H Bateman: Northern, Southern
 Sir O G Sargent: News

1950

M R Wright: African, American, Eastern, Middle East Secretariat
 A Noble: Archives, Claims, Communications, Consular, Passport Office, Passport Control, Treaty
 M E Dening: Commonwealth Liaison, Far Eastern, South-East Asia
 H Ashley Clarke: Conference and Supply, Establishment and Organization, Finance, Personnel
 G D Kirwan: Control Services Establishment and Organization, Control Services Personnel, German Section Establishment and Organization
 C F A Warner: Cultural Relations, German Information, German Education, Information Policy, Information Research, Information Services
 E A Berthoud: Economic Intelligence, Economic Relations, European Recovery, German General
 R B Stevens: Economic Warfare, German General Economic, German Commercial Relations and Industry, German Supply
 Sir Cyril Jones: German Finance, German Sections Accounts
 W I Mallett: German Internal, German Political, Refugee - German and Austrian, Western
 W Strang: News
 C H Bateman: Northern, Southern
 W G Hayter: Permanent Under-secretaries, Security
 H M G Jebb: Refugee (other than German and Austrian), United Nations (Political), United Nations (Economic and Social)

1951

R G Lewis: Administration of African Territories (FOAAT)
 R J Bowker: African, Eastern
 R M Makins: American - USA Section
 A Noble: American - Latin American Section, Archives, Claims, Communications, Consular, Northern, Southern, Treaty, Passport Office, Passport Control
 R H Scott: Commonwealth Liaison, Far Eastern, South-East Asia
 H Ashley Clarke: Conference and Supply, Establishment and Organization, Finance, Personnel

G D Kirwan: Control Services Establishment and Organization,
Control Services Personnel, German Section Accounts, German
Section Establishment and Organization

J M Troutbeck: Cultural Relations, German Education and
Information, Information Policy, Information Research,
Information Services

E A Berthoud: Economic Intelligence, Economic Relations,
General, Mutual Aid

R B Stevens: German Commercial Relations and Industry,
German Finance, German General Economic

W I Mallett: German Political, United Nations (Economic and
Social) for German and Austrian matters, Western

W Strang: News

D P Reilly: Permanent Under-secretaries, Security

Sir Pierson Dixon: United Nations (Political), United Nations
(Economic and Social), Western Organizations

1952

R G Lewis: Administration of African Territories (FOAAT)

R J Bowker: African, Eastern

R M Makins: American - USA Section

R E Barclay: American - Latin American Section, Archives, Bag
Services, Claims, Consular, Passport Office, Passport Control,
Protocol

R H Scott: China and Korea, Commonwealth Liaison, Japan and
Pacific, South-East Asia

H Ashley Clarke: Conference and Supply, Personnel,
Establishment and Organization, Finance

J W Nicholls: Cultural Relations, German Education and
Information, Information Policy, Information Research,
Information Services

E A Berthoud: Economic Intelligence, Economic Relations,
General, Mutual Aid, United Nations (Economic and Social)

F K Roberts: German Finance, German General, German Political
- Germany

G W Harrison: German Political - Austria, Permanent
Under-secretaries, Western

G D Kirwan: German Section Accounts, German Section
Establishment and Organization, German Section Personnel

W Strang: News

P Mason: Northern, Southern, United Nations (Political)

D P Reilly: Permanent Under-secretaries, Security

Sir Pierson Dixon: Western Organizations

1953

Sir Ashley Clarke: Administration of African Territories (FOAAT), Conferences and Supply, Establishment and Organization, Finance, Personnel
 Sir James Bowker: African, Eastern, Western Organizations - Middle East Defence Organization
 R E Barclay: American, Claims, Communications, Consular, Passport Office, Passport Control, Protocol, Archives
 F K Roberts: Central - Germany, German General, Western Organizations - European Questions and Atlantic Community
 G W Harrison: Central - Austria, Permanent Under-secretaries, Western and Southern
 R H Scott: China and Korea, Japan and Pacific, South-East Asia
 J W Nicholls: Cultural Relations, German Information, Information Policy, Information Research, Information Services
 J E Coulson: General, Economic Relations, Mutual Aid, United Nations (Economic and Social)
 G D Kirwan: German Section Accounts, German Section Establishment and Organization
 W Strang: News
 P Mason: Northern, United Nations (Political)
 D P Reilly: Permanent Under-secretaries, Security
 Sir Pierson Dixon: Western Organizations (NATO)

1954

R Allen: African, Eastern, Levant
 R L Speaight: American, Archives, Claims, Communications, Consular, Passport Office, Passport Control, Protocol, Treaty and Nationality
 F K Roberts: Central (Germany), Western Organizations - European Questions and Atlantic Community
 G W Harrison: Central (Austria), Permanent Under-secretaries, Western and Southern
 R E Barclay: Conference and Supply, Establishment and Organization, Finance, Personnel
 J W Nicholls: Cultural Relations, German Information, Information Policy, Information Research, Information Services
 J E Coulson: Economic Relations, General, Mutual Aid, United Nations (Economic and Social)
 W D Allen: Far Eastern, South-East Asia
 G D Kirwan: German Section Accounts, German Section Establishment and Organization
 I A Kirkpatrick: News
 P Mason: Northern, United Nations (Political)
 P H Dean: Permanent Under-secretaries, Security
 Sir Pierson Dixon: Western Organizations (NATO)

1955

C A E Shuckburgh: African, Eastern, Levant
R L Speaight: American, Archives, Claims, Communications,
Consular, General, Passport Office, Passport Control, Protocol,
Treaty and Nationality
R E Barclay: Conferences and Supply, Establishment and
Organization, Finance, German Section Establishment and
Organization, German Section Personnel and General, Personnel
P F Grey: Cultural Relations, German Information, Information
Policy, Information Research
J E Coulson: Economic Relations, Mutual Aid
W D Allen: Far Eastern, South-East Asia
I A Kirkpatrick: News
J G Ward: Northern, Southern
P H Dean: Permanent Under-secretaries, Security
G W Harrison: Southern - Austria, Western, Western
Organizations - European Questions and Atlantic Community
I T M Pink: United Nations
H A Caccia: Western Organizations (NATO)

1956

C A E Shuckburgh: African, Eastern, Levant
R L Speaight: American, Archives, Claims, Communications,
Consular, General, Passport Office, Passport Control, Protocol,
Treaty and Nationality
R E Barclay: Conferences and Supply, Establishment and
Organization, Finance, German Section Establishment and
Organization, German Section Personnel and General, Personnel
P F Grey: Cultural Relations, German Information, Information
Policy, Information Research
D A H Wright: Economic Relations, Mutual Aid
W D Allen: Far Eastern, South-East Asia
I A Kirkpatrick: News
J G Ward: Northern, Southern
P H Dean: Permanent Under-secretaries, Security
I T M Pink: United Nations
G W Harrison: Western, Western Organizations - European
Questions and Atlantic Community
H A Caccia: Western Organizations (NATO and Western
European Union)

1957

A D M Ross: African, Levant
Viscount Hood: American, Western
W D Allen: Archives, Communications, Conferences and Supply,
Establishment and Organization, Finance, Personnel
I T M Pink: Consular, United Nations, Claims

P F Grey: Cultural Relations, German Information, Information Research
 H Beeley: Eastern, Passport Office, Passport Control, Treaty and Nationality, Protocol
 D A H Wright: Economic Relations, General, Mutual Aid
 O C Morland: Far Eastern, South-East Asia
 P H Dean: Information Research, Permanent Under-secretaries, Research and Library, Security
 I A Kirkpatrick: News
 W G Hayter: Northern, Southern

HEADS OF DEPARTMENT, 1925 TO 1957

Departments included in this list are those given in the annotated lists in Section 5.2 above. Where details are not given in the *Foreign Office List*, the department has been left out of this list.

1925

R G Vansittart: American and African
 M W Lampson: Central
 Sir L Oliphant: Eastern
 J Murray: Egyptian
 S P Waterlow: Far Eastern
 P A Koppel: News
 J D Gregory: Northern
 G A Mounsey: Treaty
 G H Villiers: Western, General and League of Nations
 C H Montgomery: Chief Clerk's (Chief Clerk)
 Sir F Butler: Chief Clerk's (Finance Officer)
 E F Gye: Consular
 S Gaselee: Library

1926

R G Vansittart: American and African
 M W Lampson: Central
 Sir L Oliphant: Eastern
 J Murray: Egyptian
 S P Waterlow: Far Eastern
 Sir Arthur Willert: News
 G A Mounsey: Northern
 G R Warner: Treaty
 G H Villiers: Western, General and League of Nations
 C H Montgomery: Chief Clerk's (Chief Clerk)
 Sir F Butler: Chief Clerk's (Finance Officer)
 H E Eastwood: Communications
 E F Gye: Consular
 S Gaselee: Library

1927	R G Vansittart: American and African Sir O G Sargent: Central P A Koppel: Dominions Information Sir L Oliphant: Eastern J Murray: Egyptian G A Mounsey: Far Eastern Sir Arthur Willert: News C M Palairet: Northern G R Warner: Treaty G H Villiers: Western, General and League of Nations C H Montgomery: Chief Clerk's (Chief Clerk) Sir F Butler: Chief Clerk's (Finance Officer) H E Eastwood: Communications E F Gye: Consular S Gaselee: Library
1928	as for 1927
1929	R L Craigie: American and African Sir O G Sargent: Central P A Koppel: Dominions Information Lord Monteagle: Eastern J Murray: Egyptian G A Mounsey: Far Eastern Sir Arthur Willert: News G H Villiers: Northern G R Warner: Treaty R H Campbell: Western C H Montgomery: Chief Clerk's (Chief Clerk) Sir F Butler: Chief Clerk's (Finance Officer) H E Eastwood: Communications E F Gye: Consular S Gaselee: Library
1930	R L Craigie: American and African Sir O G Sargent: Central P A Koppel: Dominions Information Lord Monteagle: Eastern J Murray: Egyptian C W Orde: Far Eastern C Howard-Smith: League of Nations and Western Sir Arthur Willert: News H J Seymour: Northern G R Warner: Treaty

- C H Montgomery: Chief Clerk's (Chief Clerk)
 Sir F Butler: Chief Clerk's (Finance Officer)
 H E Eastwood: Communications
 E F Gye: Consular
 S Gaselee: Library
- 1931
- R L Craigie: American
 Sir O G Sargent: Central
 P A Koppel: Dominions Information
 G W Rendel: Eastern
 J Murray: Egyptian
 C W Orde: Far Eastern
 C Howard-Smith: League of Nations and Western
 Sir Arthur Willert: News
 H J Seymour: Northern
 G R Warner: Treaty
 C H Montgomery: Chief Clerk's (Chief Clerk)
 Sir F Butler: Chief Clerk's (Finance Officer)
 H E Eastwood: Communications
 E F Gye: Consular
 S Gaselee: Library
- 1932
- as for 1931 except
 M D Peterson: Egyptian
 C W Orde: Far Eastern
- 1933
- as for 1932 except
 O St C O'Malley: Dominions Information
 L Collier: Northern
- 1934
- R L Craigie: American
 R F Wigram: Central
 G W Rendel: Eastern
 M D Peterson: Egyptian
 C W Orde: Far Eastern
 R W A Leeper: League of Nations and Western
 Sir Arthur Willert: News
 L Collier: Northern
 O St C O'Malley: Southern
 G R Warner: Treaty
 C Howard-Smith: Establishment and Finance (Principal
 Establishment Officer)
 Sir F Butler: Establishment and Finance (Finance Officer)
 H E Eastwood: Communications

- D J M-D Scott: Consular
S Gaselee: Library
- 1935
- R L Craigie: American
R F Wigram: Central
G W Rendel: Eastern
R I Campbell: Egyptian
C W Orde: Far Eastern
M D Peterson: League of Nations and Western
F T A Ashton-Gwatkin: League of Nations and Western
(Economic Relations)
R W A Leeper: News
L Collier: Northern
O St C O'Malley: Southern
G N M Bland: Treaty
C Howard-Smith: Establishment and Finance (Principal
Establishment Officer)
Sir F Butler: Establishment and Finance (Finance Officer)
H E Eastwood: Communications
D J M-D Scott: Consular
S Gaselee: Library
- 1936
- as for 1935 except
M D Peterson: Abyssinian
H J Seymour: League of Nations
- 1937
- J M Troutbeck (acting): American
W Strang: Central
G W Rendel: Eastern
R I Campbell: Egyptian
C W Orde: Far Eastern
W St C Roberts: League of Nations and Western
F T A Ashton-Gwatkin: League of Nations and Western
(Economic Relations)
R W A Leeper: News
L Collier: Northern
O St C O'Malley: Southern
G N Bland: Treaty
C Howard-Smith: Establishment and Finance (Principal
Establishment Officer)
Sir F Butler: Establishment and Finance (Finance Officer)
H E Eastwood: Communications
D J M-D Scott: Consular
S Gaselee: Library

- 1938 no information
- 1939 J Balfour: American
 W Strang: Central
 A B Hutcheon: Consular
 C W Baxter: Eastern
 D V Kelly: Egyptian
 R G Howe: Far Eastern
 R W A Leeper: News
 L Collier: Northern
 E M B Ingram: Southern
 W St C Roberts: Western (General)
 F T A Ashton-Gwatkin: Western (General) (Economic Relations)
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 C Howard-Smith: Establishment and Finance
 H E Eastwood: Communications
 S Gaselee: Library
- 1940 J Balfour: American
 I A Kirkpatrick: Central
 A B Hutcheon: Consular
 V F W Cavendish-Bentinck: Dominions Intelligence
- H L Baggallay: Eastern
 C J Norton: Egyptian
 R G Howe: Far Eastern
 N B Ronald: General
 J E M Carrell: General (Refugee Section)
 C B P Peake: News
 L Collier: Northern
 R W A Leeper: Political Intelligence
 P B B Nichols: Southern
 Sir F Butler: Establishment and Finance
 H E Eastwood: Communications
 S Gaselee: Library
- 1941 J Balfour: American
 R M Makins: Central
 A B Hutcheon: Consular
 V F W Cavendish-Bentinck: Dominions Intelligence
 C W Baxter: Eastern
 C H Bateman: Egyptian
 J C Sterndale-Bennett: Far Eastern
 W H B Mack: French
 N B Ronald: General

T M Snow: General (Refugee Section)
 A W G Randall: Liaison
 C B P Peake: News
 L Collier: Northern
 C F A Warner: Political Intelligence
 W St C H Roberts: Prisoners of War
 P B B Nicholls: Southern
 F T A Ashton-Gwatkin: Chief Clerk's (Establishment and Finance)
 W L M Dunlop: Communications
 S Gaselee: Library

1942

R M Makins: Central
 A B Hutcheon: Consular
 P W S Y Scarlett (acting): Co-ordination of Propaganda
 V F W Cavendish-Bentinck: Dominions Intelligence
 C W Baxter: Eastern
 P S Scrivener: Egyptian
 H Ashley-Clarke (acting): Far Eastern
 W H B Mack: French
 C E Steel (acting): General
 W Ridsdale: News
 N M Butler: North American
 C F A Warner: Northern
 Sir R Hoare: Political Intelligence
 W St C H Roberts: Prisoners of War
 A W Randall: Refugee
 J V T W T Perowne: South American
 D F Howard: Southern
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 F T A Ashton-Gwatkin: Chief Clerk's (Establishment and Finance)
 W L M Dunlop: Communications
 S Gaselee: Library

1943

F K Roberts (acting): Central
 A B Hutcheon: Consular
 P W S Y Scarlett (acting): Co-ordination of Propaganda
 C W Baxter: Eastern
 P S Scrivener: Egyptian
 H M G Jebb: Economic and Reconstruction
 J D Greenway (acting): Economic and Reconstruction
 H Ashley-Clarke: Far Eastern
 C N Stirling: French
 J H le Rougetel: General

J W Ridsdale: News
 N M Butler: North American
 C F A Warner: Northern
 Sir R Hoare: Political Intelligence
 W St C H Roberts: Prisoners of War
 A W G Randall: Refugee
 V F W Cavendish-Bentinck: Services Liaison
 J V T W T Perowne: South American
 D F Howard: Southern
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 F T A Ashton-Gwatkin: Chief Clerk's (Establishment and Finance)
 W L M Dunlop: Communications
 S Gaselee: Library

1944

F K Roberts (acting): Central
 J M Troutbeck: Central (advice on Germany)
 G C Allchin: Consular
 J D Greenway (acting): Dominions Intelligence
 C W Baxter: Eastern
 H M G Jebb: Economic and Reconstruction
 J D Greenway (acting): Economic and Reconstruction
 P S Scrivener: Egyptian
 H Ashley-Clarke: Far Eastern
 W H B Mack: French
 J H le Rougetel: General
 W Ridsdale: News
 N M Butler: North American
 C F A Warner: Northern
 W St C H Roberts: Prisoners of War
 A W G Randall: Refugee
 A J Toynbee: Research
 V F W Cavendish-Bentinck: Services Liaison
 J V T W T Perowne: South American
 D F Howard: Southern
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 F T A Ashton-Gwatkin: Chief Clerk's (Establishment and Finance)
 W L M Dunlop: Communications
 (Library vacant)

1945

W H Montagu Pollock: Cultural Relations
 G C Allchin: Consular
 C W Baxter: Eastern
 J E Coulson (acting): Economic Relations

P S Scrivener: Egyptian
 J C Sterndale-Bennett: Far Eastern
 R A Gallop: General
 J M Troutbeck: German
 W Ridsdale: News
 P M Broadmead: North American
 C F A Warner: Northern
 W St C H Roberts: Prisoners of War
 H M G Jebb: Reconstruction
 P Mason (acting): Refugee
 W J Hasler: Relief
 A J Toynbee: Research
 V F W Cavendish-Bentinck: Services Liaison
 J V T W T Perowne: South American
 D F Howard: Southern
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 F R Hoyer Millar: Western
 J I C Crombie: Chief Clerk's (Establishment and Finance)
 W L M Dunlop: Communications
 J F French (acting): Library and Archives
 J F French: Library Correspondence Section

1946

G R Codrington: Conferences
 G C Allchin: Consular
 W H Montagu: Cultural Relations
 A V Coverly-Price: Dominions Intelligence
 C W Baxter: Eastern
 G C Allen: Economic and Industrial Planning Staff
 J E Coulson (acting): Economic Relations
 E A Radice: Economic Intelligence
 G H Villiers: Economic Warfare
 P S Scrivener: Egyptian
 J C Sterndale-Bennett: Far Eastern
 R McEuen (acting): Far Eastern Economic
 R A Gallop: General
 J M Troutbeck: German
 W Ridsdale: News
 P Mason: North American
 R M A Hankey: Northern
 E A Chapman-Andrews: Personnel
 J W O Davidson: Prisoners of War
 J G Ward (acting): Reconstruction
 D MacKillop: Refugee
 A J Toynbee: Research

H A Caccia: Services Liaison
 J V T W T Perowne: South American
 W G Hayter: Southern
 W J Hasler: Supply and Relief
 F R Hoyer Millar: Western
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 W I Mallet: Establishment and Organization
 L R Sherwood: Finance
 W L M Dunlop: Communications
 Miss D A Bigby (acting): Library and Archives

1947

Mrs M A Hamilton: American Information
 G V Kitson: China
 D MacKillop: Claims
 W L M Dunlop: Communications
 G R Codrington: Conferences
 J W O Davidson: Consular
 W H Montagu-Pollock: Cultural Relations
 A F M Matthews: Dominions Intelligence
 C W Baxter: Eastern
 H C Bowen: Eastern European Information
 N Young: Economic Industrial Planning Staff
 E A Radice: Economic Intelligence
 R B Stevens: Economic Relations
 G H Villiers: Economic Warfare
 P S Scrivener: Egyptian
 A J Gardener: Establishment and Finance
 W Stewart Roberts: Establishment and Finance
 (Information)
 J Pilcher: Far Eastern Information
 L R Sherwood: Finance
 R A Gallop: General
 P Dean: German
 A A Dudley: Information Policy
 C R Bock: Latin American
 A J C Pollock: Middle East Information
 W Ridsdale: News
 I A D Wilson-Young: North American
 R M A Hankey: Northern
 M Jeffes: Passport Control
 R E Barclay: Personnel
 J Edmunds: Refugee
 E J Passant: Research and Library
 G A Carey-Foster: Security
 W G Hayter: Services Liaison

J V T W T Perowne: South American
 R H S Allen: South-East Asia
 (Southern vacant)
 J W Nicholls: Supply and Relief
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 P Mason: United Nations
 F R Hoyer Millar: Western
 S H C Woolrych: Western European Information

1948

Mrs M A Hamilton: American Information
 P W S Y Scarlett: China
 D MacKillop: Claims
 J P G Finch: Commonwealth Liaison
 G R Codrington: Conferences
 J W O Davidson: Consular
 P R Antrobus: Control Services Establishment and
 Organization
 G A Aynsley: Control Services Personnel
 C A L Cliffe: Control Services Recruiting
 B C MacDermot (acting): Cultural Relations
 B A B Burrows: Eastern
 H C Bowen: Eastern European Information
 E A Radice: Economic Intelligence
 R B Stevens: Economic Relations
 G H Villiers: Economic Warfare
 D W Lascelles: Egyptian
 A J Gardener: Establishment and Organization
 W Stewart Roberts: Establishment and Finance
 (Information)
 N Young: Far Eastern Economic and Industrial
 Planning Staff
 F R H Murray: Far Eastern Information
 L R Sherwood: Finance
 O C Morland: General
 R S Crawford: German Education
 G P Hampshire: German Finance
 B F Marsden-Smedley: German General
 D W G L Haviland: German General Economic
 C H P Gifford: German Industry
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Internal Affairs
 S J Secker: German Section Accounts
 R L Bicknell: German Section Establishment and
 Organization
 A Kinnear: German Supply
 J W Nicholls: German Trade

C F A Warner: Information Policy
 D F MacDermot: Japan and Pacific
 C R Bock: Latin American
 A J C Pollock: Middle East Information
 W Ridsdale: News
 F B A Rundall: North American
 R M A Hankey: Northern
 M Jeffes: Passport Control
 R E Barclay: Personnel
 P H Gore-Booth: Refugee
 E J Passant: Research and Library
 K C Buss (acting): Research
 G A Carey-Foster: Security
 W G Hayter: Services Liaison
 C A E Shuckburgh: South American
 P F Grey: South-East Asia
 G A Wallinger: Southern
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 P Mason: United Nations (Political)
 P H Gore-Booth: United Nations (Economic and Social)
 P M Crosthwaite: Western
 S H C Woolrych: Western European Information

1949

Mrs M A Hamilton: American Information
 D Mackillop: Claims
 G W Furlonge: Commonwealth Liaison
 A F Orchard: Communications
 G R Codrington: Conference and Supply
 C G Kemball: Consular
 P R Antrobus: Control Services Establishment and Organization
 G A Aynsley: Control Services Personnel
 J P G Finch: Cultural Relations
 B A B Burrows: Eastern
 H C Bowen: Eastern European Information
 E A Radice: Economic Intelligence
 O C Morland: Economic Relations
 G H Villiers: Economic Warfare
 P H Gore-Booth: European Recovery
 G E Stockley: Far Eastern
 L R Sherwood: Finance
 H W A Freese-Pennefather: General
 J W Nicholls: German Commercial Relations and Industry

W R Iley: German Education
R S Crawford: German Finance
D W G L Haviland: German General Economic
E H Underwood: German Information
B F Marsden-Smedley: German Internal
P H Dean: German Political
S J Secker: German Section Accounts
H B Raynes: German Section Establishment and
Organization
A Kinnear: German Supply
P R Antrobus: German Travel
R L Speaight: Information Policy
F R H Murray: Information Research
C R Bock: Latin American Information
A J C Pollock: Middle East Information
W Ridsdale: News
P Broad: North American
R M A Hankey: Northern
O J Hubbert: Passport Office
M Jeffes: Passport Control
R E Barclay: Personnel
F B A Rundall: Refugee
G A Carey-Foster: Security
H N Brain (acting): Services Liaison
C A E Shuckburgh: South American
P F Grey: South-East Asia
G A Wallinger: Southern
R Dunbar: Treaty
P Mason: United Nations (Political)
F B A Rundall: United Nations (Economic and Social)
P M Crosthwaite: Western
S H C Woolrych: Western European Information

1950

T W Deeves: Administration of African Territories
(FOAAT)
G L Clutton: African
A S Fordham: American
G W Furlonge: Commonwealth Liaison
A F Orchard: Communications
G R Codrington: Conference and Supply
C G Kembell: Consular
P R Antrobus: Control Services Establishment and
Organization
G A Aynsley: Control Services Personnel
J P G Finch: Cultural Relations

B A B Burrows: Eastern
 E A Radice: Economic Intelligence
 O C Morland: Economic Relations
 G H Villiers: Economic Warfare
 D V Staines: Establishment and Organization
 P Broad: European Recovery
 P W S Y Scarlett: Far Eastern
 E H Rance: Finance
 W H Montagu-Pollock: General
 A D Wilson: German Commercial Relations and
 Industry
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Education
 R S Crawford: German Finance
 D W G L Haviland: German General Economic
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Information
 B F Marsden-Smedley: German Internal
 P H Dean: German Political
 S J Secker: German Section Accounts
 H B Raynes: German Section Establishment and
 Organization
 A Kinnear: German Supply
 R L Speaight: Information Policy
 F R H Murray: Information Research
 G W Aldington: Information Services
 W Ridsdale: News
 G W Harrison: Northern
 O J Hubbert: Passport Office
 M Jeffes: Passport Control
 H N Brain: Permanent Under-secretaries
 H Ashley-Clarke: Personnel
 E B Boothby: Refugee
 E J Passant: Research and Library
 G A Carey-Foster: Security
 R H Scott: South-East Asia
 A Rumbold : Southern
 R Dunbar: Treaty
 R Allen: United Nations (Political)
 E B Boothby: United Nations (Economic and Social)
 C A E Shuckburgh: Western

1951

T W Deeves: Administration of African Territories
 (FOAAT)
 R Allen: African
 D D Maclean: American
 C H Haines: Claims

P M Johnston: Commonwealth Liaison
A F Orchard: Communications
G R Codrington: Conference and Supply
C G Kemball: Consular
P R Antrobus: Control Services Establishment and Organization
G A Aynsley: Control Services Personnel
J P G Finch: Cultural Relations
G W Furlonge: Eastern
P S Falla: Economic Intelligence
T G A Muntz: Economic Relations
D V Staines: Establishment and Organization
J S H Shattock: Far Eastern
E H Rance: Finance
W Harpham: General
A D Wilson: German Commercial Relations and Industry
R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Education and Information
R S Crawford: German Finance
A H Lincoln: German General Economic
W D Allen: German Political
S J Secker: German Section Accounts
G H G Anderson: German Section Establishment and Organization
A C E Malcolm: Information Policy
F R H Murray: Information Research
J Robinson: Information Services
A Rumbold: Mutual Aid
W Ridsdale: News
G W Harrison: Northern
R C Cox: Passport Office
M Jeffes: Passport Control
A D M Ross: Permanent Under-secretaries
R W J Hooper: Personnel
E J Passant: Research and Library
G A Carey-Foster: Security
J D Murray: South-East Asia
R Dunbar: Treaty
C C Parrott: United Nations (Political)
A A Dudley: United Nations (Economic and Social)
G P Young: Western
C A E Shuckburgh: Western Organization

1952

T W Deeves: Administration of African Territories (FOAAT)
 R Allen: African
 R Cecil: American
 H K Grey: Bag Services
 J S H Shattock: China and Korea
 C H Haines: Claims
 J P T Judd: Commonwealth Liaison
 G R Codrington: Conferences and Supply
 C G Kemball: Consular
 J P G Finch: Cultural Relations
 G W Furlonge: Eastern
 P S Falla: Economic Intelligence
 D A H Wright: Economic Relations
 D V Staines: Establishment and Organization
 E H Rance: Finance
 W Harpham: General
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Education and Information
 F K Roberts: German Finance
 E R Warner: German General
 W D Allen: German Political
 S J Secker: German Section Accounts
 P R Antrobus: German Section Establishment and Organization
 G A Aynsley: German Section Personnel
 A C E Malcolm: Information Policy
 J H Peck: Information Research
 J Robinson: Information Services
 R H Scott: Japan and Pacific
 T W Garvey: Mutual Aid
 W Ridsdale: News
 H A F Hohler: Northern
 R C Cox: Passport Office
 M Jeffes: Passport Control
 A D M Ross: Permanent Under-secretaries
 R W J Hooper: Personnel
 M J Cheke: Protocol
 E J Passant: Research and Library
 G A Carey-Foster: Security
 J D Murray: South-East Asia
 N J Cheetham: Southern
 C C Parrott: United Nations (Political)
 A A Dudley: United Nations (Economic and Social)
 G P Young: Western

Lord Hood: Western Organizations

1953

T W Deeves: Administration of African Territories
 R Allen: African
 T W Garvey: American
 W D Allen: Central
 C H Johnston: China and Korea
 C H Haines: Claims
 H K Grey: Communications
 C D Steel: Conferences and Supply
 C G Kembell: Consular
 A A F Haigh: Cultural Relations
 A D M Ross: Eastern
 D A H Wright: Economic Relations
 D V Staines: Establishment and Organization
 H W Minshull: Finance
 W Harpham: General
 E R Warner: German General
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Information
 J M S Jupp: German Section Accounts
 G A Aynsley: German Section Establishment and Organization
 A C E Malcolm: Information Policy
 J H Peck: Information Research
 J Robinson: Information Services
 J A Pilcher: Japan and Pacific
 R S Crawford: Mutual Aid
 W Ridsdale: News
 H A F Hohler: Northern
 R C Cox: Passport Office
 M Jeffes: Passport Control
 C E King: Permanent Under-secretaries
 R W J Hooper: Personnel
 M J Cheke: Protocol
 E J Passant: Research and Library
 G A Carey-Foster: Security
 J G Tahourdin: South-East Asia
 M S Williams: United Nations (Political)
 A A Dudley: United Nations (Economic and Social)
 N J A Cheetham: Western and Southern
 Viscount Hood: Western Organizations

1954

E B Boothby: African
 T W Garvey: American
 P F Hancock: Central

C H Haines: Claims
 H K Grey: Communications
 C D Steel: Conferences and Supply
 C G Kemball: Consular
 A A F Haigh: Cultural Relations
 L A C Fry: Eastern
 A D Wilson: Economic Relations
 D V Staines: Establishment and Organization
 C T Crowe: Far Eastern
 H W Minshull: Finance
 E H Peck: General
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Information
 J M S Jupp: German Section Accounts
 G A Aynsley: German Section Establishment and Organization
 R H K Marett: Information Policy
 J H Peck: Information Research
 R W Parkes: Information Services
 P S Falla: Levant
 R S Crawford: Mutual Aid
 C D W O'Neill: News
 H A F Hohler: Northern
 J Teague: Passport Control
 G L McDermott: Permanent Under-secretaries
 J P E C Henniker-Major: Personnel
 M J Cheke: Protocol
 E J Passant: Research and Library
 A J De la Mare: Security
 J G Tahourdin: South-East Asia
 H Ward: Treaty and Nationality
 M S Williams: United Nations (Political)
 E R Warner: United Nations (Economic and Social)
 N J Cheetham: Western and Southern
 Viscount Hood: Western Organizations

1955

T E Bromley: African
 M C G Man: American
 A Williams: Claims
 H K Grey: Communications
 C D Steel: Conferences and Supply
 C G Kemball: Consular
 A A F Haigh: Cultural Relations
 L A C Fry: Eastern
 A D Wilson: Economic Relations
 D V Staines: Establishment and Organization

C T Crowe: Far Eastern
 H W Minshull: Finance
 P S Falla: General
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Information
 W C Scott: German Section Establishment and
 Organization
 G A Aynsley: German Section Personnel and General
 R H K Marett: Information Policy
 J D Rennie: Information Research
 E M Rose: Levant
 A J Edden: Mutual Aid
 C D W O'Neill: News
 H A F Hohler: Northern
 P L Pex: Passport Office
 J Teague: Passport Control
 G L McDermott: Permanent Under-secretaries
 J P E C Henniker-Major: Personnel
 M J Cheke: Protocol
 E J Passant: Research and Library
 A J De la Mare: Security
 F S Tomlinson: South-East Asia
 W H Young: Southern
 H Ward: Treaty and Nationality
 E R Warner: United Nations
 P F Hancock: Western
 Viscount Hood: Western Organizations

1956

J H A Watson: African
 M C G Man: American
 A Williams: Claims
 H K Grey: Communications
 C D Steel: Conferences and Supply
 C G Kemball: Consular
 A A F Haigh: Cultural Relations
 D M H Riches: Eastern
 D S Laskey: Economic Relations
 J L Pumphrey: Establishment and Organization
 C T Crowe: Far Eastern
 H W Minshull: Finance
 P S Falla: General
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Information
 W C Scott: German Section Establishment and
 Organization
 G A Aynsley: German Section Personnel and General
 G C B Stewart: Information Policy

J O Rennie: Information Research
 E M Rose: Levant
 A J Edden: Mutual Aid
 G Young: News
 H A F Hohler: Northern
 P L Pex: Passport Office
 J Teague: Passport Control
 G L McDermott: Permanent Under-secretaries
 J P E C Henniker-Major: Personnel
 M J Cheke: Protocol
 A D Wilson: Research and Library
 A J De la Mare: Security
 F S Tomlinson: South-East Asia
 W H Young: Southern
 H Ward: Treaty and Nationality
 E R Warner: United Nations
 C H Johnston: Western
 Viscount Hood: Western Organizations

1957

J H A Watson: African
 H A A Hankey: American
 A Williams: Claims
 H K Grey: Communications
 C D Steel: Conferences and Supply
 E F Garner: Consular
 A A F Haigh: Cultural Relations
 D M H Riches: Eastern
 J E Chadwick: Economic Relations
 J L Pumphrey: Establishment and Organization
 P G F Dalton: Far Eastern
 H W Minshull: Finance
 P S Falla: General
 R A A Chaput de Saintonge: German Information
 G C B Stewart: Information Policy
 J O Rennie: Information Research
 E M Rose: Levant
 A J Edden: Mutual Aid
 C P Hope: News
 T Brimelow: Northern
 P L Pex: Passport Office
 J Teague: Passport Control
 R W J Hooper: Permanent Under-secretaries
 J P E C Henniker-Major: Personnel
 M J Cheke: Protocol
 A D Wilson: Research and Library

A C I Samuel: Security
 F S Tomlinson: South-East Asia
 W H Young: Southern
 H Ward: Treaty and Nationality
 J D Murray: United Nations
 P F Hancock: Western

HEADS OF DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE DIVISIONS, 1925 TO 1945

1925	R W Matthew: Empire, Trades and Economic Sir Edward Crowe: Foreign W J Glenny: General Lt Col H W G Cole: Exhibitions and Fairs D H Boggis Rolfe: Export Credit
1926	R W Matthew: Empire, Trades and Economic Sir Edward Crowe: Foreign L A Paish: General (City Section) G I H Lloyd: General (Statistical and Tariffs) R E R C Brinsley: General (Overseas Administration) R E R C Brinsley: General (Library, Stationery and Enquiry Room) P C Rice: General (Establishment and Finance) Lt Col H W G Cole: Exhibitions and Fairs D H Boggis Rolfe: Export Credit
1927	R W Matthew: Empire, Trades and Economic Sir Edward Crowe: Foreign L A Paish: General (City Section) R E R C Brinsley: General (Overseas Administration) R E R C Brinsley: General (Library, Stationery and Enquiry Room) P C Rice: General (Establishment and Finance) Lt Col H W G Cole: Exhibitions and Fairs F H Nixon: Export Credits Guarantee Department
1928	R W Matthew: Empire, Trades and Economic Sir Edward Crowe: Foreign L A Paish: General (City Section) R E R C Brinsley: General (Overseas Administration) P C Rice: General (Establishment and Finance) Lt Col H W G Cole: Exhibitions and Fairs F H Nixon: Export Credits Guarantee Department

- 1929 E R Eddison: Empire, Trades and Economic
J Picton Bagge: Foreign
L A Paish: General (City Section)
R E R C Brinsley: General (Overseas Administration)
P C Rice: General (Establishment and Finance)
Lt Col H W G Cole: Exhibitions and Fairs
F H Nixon: Export Credits Guarantee Department
- 1930 as for 1929 except
E R Eddison and M W Donald: General (City Section)
- 1931 J Picton Bagge: Foreign
J A P Edgcumbe: Empire and General
Sir E T F Crowe: Empire and General (Finance and Accounts)
G I H Lloyd: Trades and Economic
E C Donaldson Rawlins: Exhibitions and Fairs
- 1932 J Picton Bagge: Foreign
J A P Edgcumbe: Empire and General
Sir E T F Crowe: Empire and General (Finance and Accounts)
G I H Lloyd: Trades and Economic
D J Colville: Overseas Trade Development Council
E C Donaldson Rawlins: Exhibitions and Fairs
- 1933 as for 1932 except
C Taylor: Exhibitions and Fairs
- 1934 as for 1933
- 1935 J Picton Bagge: Foreign
J A P Edgcumbe: Empire
J H Jones: Establishment and Finance
G I H Lloyd: Trades and Economic
D J Colville: Overseas Trade Development Council
C Taylor: Exhibitions and Fairs
- 1936 J Picton Bagge and C C Farrer: Foreign
J A P Edgcumbe: Empire
J H Jones: Development and Research
E H Bliss: Industries
R E Brinsley-Richards: General
J Ridler: Establishment and Finance
J H Jones and C Taylor: Exhibitions and Fairs

- 1937
- J Picton Bagge and C C Farrer: Foreign
 - J A P Edgcumbe: Empire
 - J H Jones: Development and Research
 - J H Jones: Industries
 - J H Jones: Press and Publicity
 - J H Jones: General
 - J H Jones: Establishment and Finance
 - C Taylor: Exhibitions and Fairs
 - D J F Morton: Industrial Intelligence Centre
- 1938
- C C Farrer: Foreign
 - J A P Edgcumbe: Empire
 - J A P Edgcumbe: Industries
 - J H Jones: Press and Publicity
 - C M Jones: General
 - J H Jones: Establishment
 - J H Jones: Finance and Overseas Establishment
 - J H Jones: Exhibitions and Fairs
 - D J F Morton: Industrial Intelligence Centre
- 1939
- C C Farrer: Foreign
 - J A P Edgcumbe: Empire
 - C M Jones: Industries
 - C M Jones: General Administrative (including Press)
 - J H Jones: Central Section
 - J H Jones: Exhibitions and Fairs (including Publicity)
 - D J F Morton: Industrial Intelligence Centre
- 1940
- R K Jopson: Foreign
 - J W Golsby: Empire
 - J H Jones: Secretariat
 - D H Lyal: Industries and Industrial Enquiries
 - J H Jones: General Division and Central Organization
 - J H Jones: Establishment and Finance
 - J H Jones: Exhibitions and Fairs
- 1941
- J W Golsby: Foreign
 - J W Golsby: Empire
 - D H Lyal: Industries and Industrial Enquiries
 - J H Jones: Secretariat and General
 - J H Jones: Finance
 - J H Jones: Establishment
 - J H Jones: Exhibitions and Fairs

- 1942 J W Golsby: Industries and Overseas
D H Lyal: Post-War Unit
J H Jones: General
J H Jones: Finance
J H Jones: Establishment
- 1943 D H Lyal: Overseas and Industries Administrative
J W Golsby: General Services
J W Golsby: Finance
J W Golsby: Establishment
- 1944 D H Lyal: Industries
L H Leach: Overseas
J W Golsby: General
J Ridler: Establishment and Finance and Common Services
- 1945 D H Lyal: Industries
C S Toseland: Overseas
D H Lyal: Exhibitions
C S Toseland: Information
S A Deacon: Central Branch
J Ridler: Establishment and Finance and Common Services

CHAPTER 6

THE TREASURY

6.1 THE ROLE OF THE TREASURY AND ITS INVOLVEMENT IN COLONIAL/IMPERIAL AFFAIRS

The Treasury's three broad areas of responsibility - for the control of public revenue and expenditure, for the organization and efficiency of the civil service and for the management of the economy, including overseas finance - give it a role in the full range of government business, enabling it to exert a powerful, if indirect influence on both the formulation of policy and its execution. In the colonial context, this influence was generally one step removed, since colonial governments were responsible for raising their own revenue and for its expenditure, subject to a degree of supervision by the Colonial Office that varied according to the constitutional arrangements and the financial stability of particular colonies.

While the Treasury did not seek to control colonial policy, its agreement had to be sought whenever there was a question of the expenditure of UK taxpayers' money on the colonies. The nature and circumstances of funding requests varied in relation to Colonial Office policy and to the broad economic policy of the government. However, at any point in time the interchange between the two departments reflected the fundamental differences in their responsibilities. The Colonial Office was concerned to obtain the best possible financial assistance for the colonies. The Treasury, on the other hand, necessarily regarded the requirements of the dependencies as but one of the many pressing financial demands on the limited resources of the national budget, and was concerned to restrict the financial liabilities which might follow from Colonial Office policies.

As was the case with any Whitehall department, there was always room for conflict between the Treasury and the Colonial Office over particular issues and items of expenditure. Their relationship involved the balancing of potentially conflicting interests. In the last resort, serious differences would be referred to Cabinet for resolution.

At the start of the period Treasury financial control affected the administration of colonial policy in four basic ways. The annual estimates of the Colonial Office, like those of any other department, were subjected to Treasury scrutiny. The Treasury could oppose increases of expenditure and thus indirectly influence Colonial Office aims and functions. The Treasury also scrutinized and attempted to prevent increases in expenditure on the Colonial Services vote, which was money spent by the Colonial Office on administration, development and other services on behalf of the dependent empire. In addition, the Treasury scrutinized the annual estimates of those colonial administrations in receipt of grants-in-aid, funds which enabled them to meet administrative costs and avoid budget deficits, both so long as the grant was required and for a period thereafter. Finally, the Treasury could exert its influence when colonies attempted to raise loans on the London money market. Colonial governments could raise loans more cheaply by obtaining an imperial government guarantee that the colony could meet its obligations under the terms of the loan. Such guarantees were, however, granted sparingly. Those four types of control continued throughout, but as colonial policy began to place increasing emphasis on development financed in England, the powers of the Treasury to intervene increased.

Until 1929 there was no central initiative to accelerate the economic development of the dependent territories. The development of colonial resources was left substantially to the endeavours of colonial governments and private enterprise. However, the Treasury was prepared to provide some financial encouragement in the form of grants-in-aid or guarantees for loans with the aim of promoting local self-sufficiency, provided that there was no risk of imposing a financial burden on the British taxpayer. Ad hoc development schemes were initiated from the colonies, usually to assist in recovery from natural disasters or to finance such projects as laying basic rail networks, building roads or improving harbours which would attract investments and stimulate exports, thus generating funds for future administrative costs and ending the need for assistance.

The passage of the Colonial Development Act in 1929 marked the beginning of a new approach to colonial development. After the First World War the British economy had suffered from a decline in overseas demand for British products which resulted in unemployment; the act was intended to encourage the development of new overseas markets. It empowered the Treasury, with the concurrence of the Colonial Office and on the recommendation of a specially constituted Colonial Development Advisory Committee, to advance grants and loans to colonial governments for the purpose of aiding and developing agriculture and industry and thereby promoting commerce with, or industry in the United Kingdom. The scheme was characterized by its narrow financial limits, bias towards metropolitan interests and ad hoc approach to short term projects rather than longer term programmes. Moreover, the depression reduced the level of available funding. Nevertheless, the act did establish the principle of greater state investment in the development of colonial resources, and created the machinery for systematic examination of proposals to that end.

The Colonial Development and Welfare Act 1940 increased the funding available and widened the purpose of assistance to the colonies to include the promotion of services aimed at developing the resources of the colonies and the 'prosperity and happiness' of their peoples. It marked a break with the doctrine of colonial financial self-sufficiency and established the principle of direct contribution to development for its own sake.

The act required colonial governments seeking funding under its various provisions to submit comprehensive development plans to Whitehall before submitting applications for grants for specific projects. In both cases, approval was dependent on agreement by both the Colonial Office and the Treasury, thus providing the latter with further opportunities to exert its influence. The act, though subsequently amended several times, remained the basis for colonial development in the post-war period.

At the inception of the 1940 act, the Treasury had anticipated that the need for grants would diminish as their effects strengthened colonial economies. But the changed economic situation in the post-war period, in particular the weakness of sterling, recurrent UK balance of payments problems, the need for export earnings from the colonies and the freeing of trade under the Bretton Woods settlement, continued to alter this perception. Domestically, the Treasury's powers to manage the economy were enhanced, as was symbolized by the transfer to it of the Central Economic Planning Staff in 1947. Overseas, it paid increasing attention to the development of the colonial territories, individually and collectively, as a potential export earner in support of the sterling area.

Throughout this period of changing international economic realities, the Treasury and the Colonial Office were involved in continual negotiation and debate regarding assistance to the colonies. A series of working parties scrutinized the details of the continuation of Colonial Development and Welfare funds, the balance between loans and grants and the terms of this funding, the level of guarantee for colonial loans on the London market and the form of assistance from multilateral sources, notably the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Despite constraints on UK finance, continuing assistance was deemed essential, not least because in the light of the cold war there was a need to demonstrate that the best hope for development lay with the West. Colonial Development and Welfare assistance continued virtually until the end of empire, being formally wound up only in 1970.

6.2 REGISTERED FILES

6.2.1 Departmental/Divisional File Series, 1920 to 1948

In 1919 the Treasury was reorganized into three departments, Finance, Supply and Establishments, each subdivided into divisions, of which initially there were twelve. The Finance Department was responsible for the budget, government borrowing, money bills, the consolidated fund, overseas financial questions, banking, currency and foreign exchange, financial procedures and audit. The Establishments Department was responsible for personnel, pay, superannuation and organizational questions in the civil service, including military departments. The Supply Department had primary responsibility for the control of expenditure voted annually by parliament. In practice, there was considerable overlap between the work of the three departments.

Following a reorganization in June 1920, the system of registering all Treasury papers in a single numerical series each year was brought to an end. The old system was no longer able to cope with the growing volume and complexity of Treasury work. A separate registered file series was created for finance work (F files), supply work (S files), establishment work (E files) and for work on bills, parliamentary committees and other general work (G files). There was not a precise relationship between the departments and the file series. For example, staff in Finance Department probably did most of their work on F files, but they would also make use of the other series. A fifth series (P files) was added for papers on superannuation matters. Each series had jackets which were of a distinctive colour.

In the 1930s the term department ceased to be used except with reference to the Treasury itself. Rather, there were finance divisions, supply divisions, establishment divisions and, increasingly, mixed supplies and establishment divisions. The five file series continued, the files being assigned to a series according to whether the main subject of the file was a financial, supply, establishment, superannuation or general issue.

The main feature of the central registry system in use during this period was that all correspondence on a particular subject was registered under one number and kept together on a file. Files were given numbers consecutively in each of the five series as they were opened, beginning with F1, S1, etc, the numbers having no significance on their own.

The system aimed to confine an individual file to a simple narrowly defined subject, so as soon as a subject subsidiary to the main subject arose, a sub-file was opened and given the number of the main subject file with a sub-number prefixed by zero, eg S25/01. When a hierarchy of subsidiary subjects needed to be used, a succession of zero prefixed sub-numbers could be given, for instance, Aden Police: printed copies of correspondence, S31885/03/02. By the time the system came to an end in 1948, some files had dozens of sub-files.

Whenever a file or a sub-file grew bulky, a new part was opened and given a sub-number not preceded by a zero. For instance, a file on Hong Kong currency which ran from 1929 to 1942 had seventeen parts, the reference being F11922/1-17. If a subject recurred regularly, and this was the case with many of the estimates and taxation files in the F series, the year was indicated after the subject number rather than a part number being used. Thus, a file on the Colonial Office supplementary estimate for 1939 took the reference F12041/39/01.

Files from the five series have been transferred to the Public Record Office as follows:

Finance	(F) files	T 160
Supply	(S) files	T 161
Establishments	(E) files	T 162
General	(G) files	T 163
Pensions and Superannuation	(P) files	T 164

The Treasury central registry maintained a subject index to each series with main headings, sub-headings and divisions of sub-headings; the arrangement of the lists of T 160, T 161 and T 162 is based on these headings and sub-headings. The lists of T 163 and T 164 are arranged in their original file number order, but are preceded by lists of index headings indicating the relevant Treasury file reference numbers. The files in T 163 and T 164 have been given unique PRO piece numbers, but the files in T 160, T 161 and T 162 have not. Therefore in order to requisition the files in the latter classes it is necessary to quote the old Treasury file reference as well as the box numbers. Where files have been divided into parts because of their size, each part is to be treated as a separate piece for the purpose of ordering. Thus to order the sixth part of a file on applications for assistance to the Colonial Development Advisory Committee in the supply class (T 161) the reader must add the complete Treasury file reference number (S34609/044/6) to the box number (1384). Thus the whole reference number for ordering purposes is T 161/1384/S34609/044/6.

An additional means of reference to the F, S and E files is provided by the Precedent Books, which now form T 211, in which were noted, under alphabetically arranged subject headings, the details of any important precedents recorded on a file, or of any major paper. In some cases the recording of the precedent in this way was taken as sufficient for the Treasury's own purposes, and some files described in T 211 do not now exist. Precedent Books for the Finance and Supply Departments exist for the years 1920 to 1930. The Establishments Department and the Finance Department's accounts clerk maintained precedent books for the whole period 1920 to 1948.

T 160 Finance Files, 1887 to 1948, 1418 boxes, files

This is the most significant Treasury class for the study of colonial issues in the period before 1948. There is a subject heading for countries (including colonies), and under the heading finance there are sub-headings for currency, countries and loans and countries. There are also relevant files under many other sub-headings of finance, such as accounts, banking and taxation; and various other headings, such as materials and trade.

T 161 Supply Files, 1905 to 1961, 1462 boxes, files

Files on colonial topics are to be found primarily under country headings, but relevant files can also be found under a range of other headings, including committees, communications, fighting services, materials and trade. There are also files concerning the Colonial Office which are to be found under a number of headings. Almost all files come to an end before 1949.

T 162 Establishment Files, 1890 to 1948, 1028 boxes, files

A small number of the files refer to appointments, staffing and accommodation in the Colonial Office and to the conditions of service in the colonies.

T 163 General Files, 1888 to 1948, 142 boxes, files

The general file series contains a small number of files pertaining to the dependent territories. These cover, for instance, the Palestine and East Africa Loan Bill (1926), Colonial Stock Bill (1934) and Malta Reconstruction Bills (1925 and 1946).

T 164 Pensions and Superannuation Files, 1893 to 1970, 694 boxes, files

The superannuation file series includes some files relating to Colonial Office or Colonial Service officials. A few files concern injury compensation in the colonies.

6.2.2 Divisional File Series, 1948 to 1957

At the end of the Second World War the Treasury's registry system was still centralized, although there had been some delegation of control in some areas. In 1948 registry functions were devolved to the divisions, each of which had its own registered file series. The relevant divisional series are described below. Files from the centralized file series which were still current in 1948 were re-registered in the new divisional series. Readers should therefore be aware that material they would expect to find in T 160 to T 163 may well be in one of the series created in 1948. This will be evident from the class lists, but should a reader want to trace the location of a particular file, the Reader Services Department at Kew has a copy of the Treasury's numerical registers of the F, S and E series files. These show which files have been destroyed, which transferred to the Public Record Office (giving the box number) and

which carried forward into the post-1948 decentralized system (giving the Treasury's new reference to the registered papers).

Although a new ES series of files was used by the Establishments Superannuation Division after 1948 (see T 248), the P series continued and T 164 runs on to 1970. It also contains a small number of files from the PC (for compensation cases and policy), PU (for university superannuation questions) and PS (for general superannuation questions) series.

When the registry system was decentralized a new file numbering system was introduced. The use of subject headings continued, but now a central 'theme' list was built up by the chief registrar in consultation with the O & M Division by a study of the work of each registry in turn. Each registry drew from the list the terms necessary to describe its own work and numbered them in a running sequence. The numbers used did not have the same meaning from one division to another. Most papers required more than one heading to describe their content. A list in numerical order of the themes used in each divisional registry is included in the corresponding PRO class list.

In the new system the file reference had three elements. The first was a set of prefix letters indicating the local registry. The second was one or two numbers representing the theme(s) of the file. The last element was a number prefixed by 0 allocated in sequence to each file within the same theme(s). For instance, a file on claims and compensation in respect of Palestine civil servants has the reference number IF 21/147/02A. Here IF represents the Imperial and Foreign Division, 21 Palestine and 147 compensation; 02 indicates that this is the second file in the series. Bulky files were split into parts designated by A, B, C, etc. In the example, A has been added to the sequential file number to indicate that this is part of a multiple file.

Readers should be aware that the files in the divisional classes were transferred from the Treasury in blocks, so files on particular subjects will be found at various points in the list and earlier files are sometimes included in blocks of a later date. There is a subject index to the post-1948 file series at the beginning of T 213 which indicates the PRO piece numbers of the relevant files. This index covers the classes T 213-T 223, T 225-T 233, T 236, T 237, T 248 and T 249, but it is important to note that it includes only the first few transfers of files into these classes. For later transfers it is necessary to refer to the class lists themselves. Each list is preceded by a note which describes its contents.

The list which follows indicates the letter codes used for each local registry in the period from 1948 and the PRO classes in which the records of the decentralized registries may be found. A summary of the contents of these classes follows the list.

Agricultural and Food Division	AF	T 223
Central Economic Planning Section	CP	T 229
Defence Policy and Material Division	DP(M)	T 225
Economic Advisory Section	EAS	T 230
Establishment Officer's Branch	EO	T 199
Exchange Control Division	EC(A)	T 231
Home and Overseas Planning Staff Division	HOPS	T 234
Home Finance Division	HF	T 233

Imperial and Foreign Division	IF	T 220
Information Division	IDT	T 245
Mutual Aid Division	MA	T 235
Organization and Methods Division	OM	T 222
Overseas Finance Division	OF	T 236
Overseas Finance (Marshall Aid) Division	OFM	T 237
Overseas Negotiations Committee Division	ONCD	T 238
Trade and Industry Division	TI	T 228

T 199 Establishment Officer's Branch: Files, 1821 to 1985, 731 files

This class includes files of the Treasury Establishment Officer's Branch originally registered in the E (Establishment) series, 1920 to 1930, and in the TG (Treasury General) series, 1930 to 1948, and re-registered as EO files in 1948 when the Treasury registry system was decentralized. The files concern the domestic administration of the Treasury and its sub-departments, and include reviews of the organization of the Treasury at all levels. These reviews help to establish the relationship between the Treasury, the Colonial Office and other departments. Between 1947 and 1953 the chancellor's news bulletins provide progress reports on the work of the divisions, which include material on the dependent territories. The files also include information on the British Middle East Office, the loan of Treasury officers to the Colonial Service and Treasury representation in the Middle East, Ceylon and South-East Asia.

T 220 Imperial and Foreign Division: Files, 1914 to 1961, 1391 files

The division was set up in 1938. Certain of its earlier files will be found in the supply (T 161) and establishment (T 162) series. Its responsibilities included Colonial Office and Colonial Service establishment and manpower questions, Colonial Office supply questions and questions relating to tariffs and support for colonial industries, technical assistance in Africa south of the Sahara, international organizations (eg NATO, SEATO, OEEC, Colombo Plan Technical Co-operation Scheme), colonial military matters and the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts.

T 222 Organization and Methods Division: Files, 1923 to 1978, 1464 files

Set up in 1941, the division investigated the efficiency of work throughout the civil service and co-ordinated the organization and methods sections in other government departments. The class includes the files of the division's decentralized registry together with papers of the Machinery of Government Branch, which was incorporated into the division in 1947. Most of the files focus on domestic issues, but a few review the objectives, structure and role of the Colonial Office in relation to colonial governments. There is also some material on plans for the devolution of colonial currencies and the impact of the British Council on the dependent territories. In addition, some files concern organization and methods reviews in the colonies themselves and the training of personnel for O and M work in the colonies.

T 223 Agricultural and Food Division: Files, 1920 to 1960, 421 files

The division was set up in 1946 to formulate and monitor policies for the production and supply of food commodities. Some pre-1948 files have been incorporated in this class but most are in the supply series (T 161). Although most of the division's work was domestic, it was concerned with various aspects of colonial production and distribution and it liaised with the Colonial Office, the Ministry of Food, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Overseas Food Corporation on these issues. There are files on the production of tea, meat, cocoa, groundnuts, rum, sugar and rice. There is also information on marketing in relation to domestic demand, price controls, customs duties and importation of commodities in the colonies.

T 225 Defence Policy and Material Division: Files, 1911 to 1964, 1641 files

The division resulted from the amalgamation in 1938 of supply and establishment responsibilities for defence and military affairs. Certain of its pre-1948 files will be found in the supply series (T 161). The files cover Treasury involvement with the armed forces and their budgets, defence contracts, research, works and supplies, civil aviation, and international questions. There are scattered files relating to colonial aspects of these questions. For instance, there is information on the costs incurred in military operations in Ceylon, Cyprus and Kenya; expenditure on colonial military forces; the establishment of naval facilities in Hong Kong, Gibraltar and Singapore and of aviation facilities in Malaya, Hong Kong, Southern Rhodesia and Ceylon; Australian policy towards the Middle East, Palestine and Malaysia; and the Treasury's involvement in imperial defence strategy. In 1957 questions relating to civil aviation were transferred to the Trade and Industry Division (see T 228).

T 228 Trade and Industry Division: Files, 1916 to 1960, 695 files

The division, set up in 1938, dealt with industrial materials, energy requirements, scientific research and transportation. Certain of its earlier files will also be found in the supply series (T 161). The files mostly relate to domestic concerns and in particular to the nationalized industries. However, the division did liaise with the Board of Trade, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Fuel and Power on arrangements for extracting raw materials from the empire. There are, therefore, files on commodities, notably rubber from Malaya; oil from the Middle East; bauxite from the Gold Coast; iron ore from Sierra Leone; and tin from Malaya, Northern Rhodesia, Singapore and Thailand. There are also files concerning research into the profitability of various schemes in the colonies and the development of shipping and railway facilities for transporting raw and processed materials. Some of the work of the division was taken over by the Home and Overseas Planning Staff Division in 1956 (see T 234).

T 233 Home Finance Division: Files, 1919 to 1969, 2323 files

Before 1948 files for this division formed part of the finance series (T 160). Some of these earlier files were carried forward into the new system, and therefore some of the material in this class is dated prior to 1948. The division was concerned with formulating the budget and monitoring revenue accumulation and expenditure. There are a few files relevant to the empire and the domestic implications of imperial policy, particularly in relation to the responsibility of the crown agents, colonial stocks and loans and colonial bills.

T 234 Home and Overseas Planning Staff Division: Files, 1939 to 1961, 763 files

The HOPS division, created in 1956, took over the work of the Central Economic Planning Section, Mutual Aid Division, European Economic Co-operation Committee and Overseas Negotiation Committee and some of the work of the Trade and Industry Division. The HOPS Division was itself closed down in 1958, but its successor, the Overseas Co-ordination Division, continued to use HOPS files. The HOPS Division was thus involved in a wide range of key domestic and international issues in relation to trade, industry, the supply of natural resources at home and abroad, investment, export trends and European co-operation. It was concerned with Britain's involvement with NATO, the OEEC and the Council of Europe and with US and Canadian aid. There are files on the supply of raw materials and their procurement, notably oil from the Middle East, on Britain's changing trade pattern with the colonies and on the relationship of the colonies to the European Trade area.

T 235 Mutual Aid Division: Files, 1948 to 1956, 136 files

Created in 1950 to serve the Mutual Aid Committee, the division was concerned with interdepartmental questions arising from American financial aid for economic recovery and defence. With the abolition of the European Economic Co-operation Committee in 1951 (see T 232), the Mutual Aid Committee took over questions relating to aid within NATO and to the OEEC and other bodies concerned with economic co-operation in Europe. After 1954 its terms of reference were expanded to cover broader aid issues and a wider range of agencies concerned with economic co-operation between nations. Most of the files relate to the political, economic and military relationship between Britain and America, but a small number are directly relevant to the colonies. They cover, for instance, US aid to counteract communism in south-east Asia, defence questions in south-east Asia, the use of colonial resources and the impact of the US dollar on colonial economies. The Mutual Aid Committee's work was transferred to the Home and Overseas Planning Staff in 1956.

T 236 Overseas Finance Division: Files, 1920 to 1964, 6554 files.

The division was set up in 1938 to deal with financial relations and negotiations with overseas countries and international agencies, together with such matters as foreign

T 229 Central Economic Planning Section: Files, 1939 to 1956, 896 files

In 1947 the Treasury took over responsibility for the Central Economic Planning Staff, which had been set up earlier that year. The files in this class contain the section's papers with a few drawn from various government sources dealing with economic affairs which predate its creation. The section was involved in various key areas of economic planning, and its staff chaired or played important roles on a number of key committees concerned with colonial questions, including the Colonial Development Committee, Sterling Area Development Working Party, Export Committee and Overseas Negotiations Committee. Its involvement in colonial affairs spanned the areas of investment, development policy, fiscal policy, balance of payments and European co-operation. Its files contain material on the procurement of strategic commodities such as oil, cotton and foodstuffs from colonial sources both during and after the war; devaluation, investment and loans in and to the colonies; and Commonwealth conferences. In 1956 the division was absorbed into the Home and Overseas Planning Staff Division (see T 234).

T 230 Economic Advisory Section: Files, 1939 to 1964, 700 files

In 1953 the Economic Section of the Cabinet Office was transferred to the Treasury and its director was given the title of economic adviser to the government. The unit was staffed by a small group of professional economists charged with keeping watch on economic developments as a whole. Its work involved contact with all departments concerned with economic policy and it was in close touch with the Central Economic Planning Staff (see T 229). A small proportion of its files contain material relevant to the empire on such issues as international monetary policies, sterling balances, shipping and controls over non-preferential and preferential markets. There are statistics on the quantity and quality of raw materials particularly rubber, sugar, rice, oil and wood. In addition, there are estimates of costs of industrialization in Africa and the Caribbean. A few files relate to the Colombo Plan for economic development in south and south-east Asia.

T 231 Exchange Control Division: Files, 1936 to 1962, 1332 files

The division was set up in 1939 when exchange control became a Treasury responsibility under the Defence (Finance) Regulations. This class includes some pre-1948 files (registered in the EC series). Others are to be found in T 160. The division was concerned with a number of issues affecting the territories, notably exchange control legislation, securities, import and export policy, capital investment abroad and foreign investment in the sterling area. There are working papers relating to the Caribbean, Africa and the Middle East.

exchange and the balance of payments. Most of its files from the period before 1948 are to be found in T 160. Overseas finance work expanded considerably after the war with the demands of the European Recovery Programme, European economic co-operation and the necessity to control trade and finances in the sterling area. A relatively small proportion of the division's work concerned the dependent territories. Nevertheless, the relevant files are potentially of great interest to students of colonial affairs. These documents cover such topics as investment, loans and aid, US involvement through lend lease and investment, import and export policies, commodity pricing and marketing. There are references to most colonies.

T 237 Overseas Finance (Marshall Aid) Division: Files, 1948 to 1960, 347 files

Created in 1948 to implement work arising from the European Recovery Programme (Marshall Aid), the division dealt with a range of matters including the Economic Co-operation Administration of the US government, international investment in member and non-member OEEC countries and various mutual aid programmes. The files are concerned primarily with the reconstruction of Europe, but they include information relevant to the colonies. They cover, for instance, the utilization of ERP funds for colonial development; technical assistance for railway surveys and the control of malaria and tsetse flies in various territories; the allocation and control of raw materials from the colonies and their prices; and UK commodity requirements under the ERP from Southern Rhodesia, Hong Kong and Malaya. There are minutes of the Colonial Dollar Drain Committee from 1948 onwards.

T 238 Overseas Negotiations Committee Division: Files, 1946 to 1955, 289 files

The division came into being in 1947 to service the Overseas Negotiations Committee, which was set up to advise on the conduct of trade and financial negotiations with overseas countries and to supervise the conduct of such negotiations. There is little information specifically about colonial subjects, but more general files on such topics as commodities, exports, imports, the balance of payments and the sterling area contain some relevant information. In 1956 the work of the division was taken over by the Home and Overseas Planning Staff (see T 234). The papers of the Overseas Negotiations Committee itself are in CAB 134.

T 245 Information Division: Files, 1947 to 1964, 30 files

The Economic Information Unit was set up in 1947 to co-ordinate information about the government's economic activities. It was absorbed into the Treasury in the same year and it soon took over part of the Overseas Information Division of the Board of Trade. It was renamed the Treasury Information Division in 1950. The files in this class, which incorporate those of the Economic Information Unit, deal with publicity matters concerning economic affairs. They include information about publicity in the colonies in relation to the economic information policy.

6.2.3 Committee Papers

Treasury representatives participated on and often chaired a large number of Cabinet, interdepartmental and departmental committees which discussed financial issues affecting the colonies. Many of these committees are described in Sections 2.3 and 8.3.2. Three sets of relevant committee papers form part of the Treasury's own records. These are described below.

T 190 Trade Facilities Act Advisory Committee, 1917 to 1960, 276 files

This standing committee was established in 1921 and amalgamated with the Development (Public Utility) Advisory Committee in 1929. Among the relevant files are those on applications for loan guarantees, including some relating to railway projects in Africa, energy and construction programmes for the Sudan and companies working in Palestine. Some of these files contain statistical information on production in the territories.

T 196 Exchange Requirements Committee, 1939 to 1945, 184 files

These files contain the committee's surveys, consultative recommendations and proposals. A number of them reflect the empire's role in sustaining the war effort and lessening dependence on the USA. They cover colonial production and supply and include statistics on the quantity and value of minerals, cotton and foodstuffs.

T 232 European Economic Co-operation Committee: Files, 1948 to 1955, 440 files

This class contains the files of the committee, which was set up in 1948. A large portion of them relate to the European Recovery Programme and the OEEC. There is information on short and long range plans for projects in the dependent territories, the resolution of colonial debts, the Cabinet Middle East Committee, alternative railway construction in East Africa, colonial production, investment and colonial balance of payments. Files on economic co-operation assistance contain information on grants for US technical advice in Africa, loans to Southern Rhodesia and the accumulation of dollar reserves for colonial development.

6.3 OTHER RECORDS

6.3.1 Private Office and Private Papers

The Treasury classes include official, semi-official and private correspondence collected by ministers and officials during their periods in office.

T 171 Chancellor of the Exchequer's Office: Budget and Finance Bill Papers, 1859 to 1972, 799 ledgers, volumes and files

These annual papers focus on the management of the budget and, increasingly through this period, on the handling of the the economy as a whole. Nevertheless, they do include discussions on the desirability of specific expenditure projects. Accordingly, they are worth consulting if a colonial spending project was controversial or if it came under close Treasury scrutiny.

- T 172 Chancellor of the Exchequer's Office: Miscellaneous Papers, 1792 to 1962, 2153 files

This class is a rich source for the study of Treasury activity between the wars, but contains less material of a later date. It includes memoranda, minutes of deputations and conferences and letters to and from the chancellor. The relevant files cover subjects including the gold standard, the organization of empire industry and trade through preferential taxation, duties on oil and coffee imports and deputations concerning West Indian sugar. They also include Cabinet papers on colonial military contributions and British policy in Palestine.

- T 175 Hopkins Papers, 1914 to 1942, 125 volumes, etc

These papers were collected by Sir Richard Hopkins while serving as the controller of finance and supplies (1927 to 1932), second secretary (1932 to 1942) and permanent secretary (1942 to 1945). There are a relatively small number of files relating to the dependent territories. Some of these relate to the reorganization of the Colonial Office (1927 to 1928), imperial and colonial defence policies, financial policy in the 1930s and international trade.

- T 176 Niemeyer Papers, 1906 to 1930, 40 volumes, etc

These are papers from Sir Otto Niemeyer's period in the Treasury as controller of finance and member of the Financial Committee of the League of Nations. There are documents on the Palestine and East Africa Loan Bill (1926), other loan issues, imperial conferences and the supply of and demand for gold.

- T 177 Private Office Papers and Private Collections: Phillips Papers, 1922 to 1945, 59 volumes, etc

These are the papers of Sir Frederick Phillips during his career at the Treasury. He was head of the Treasury's wartime mission in Washington. His career culminated in his appointment as joint second secretary in 1942. There are a small number of relevant files on international monetary policy, the World Economic and Finance Conference and the League of Nations during the 1930s.

- T 188 Leith Ross Papers, 1898 to 1968, 326 files, etc

The files contain official, semi-official and private correspondence collected by Sir Frederick Leith Ross in his various capacities, which included posts at the Treasury as

deputy controller of finance and as chief economic adviser to the government. He was also involved in several international committees. There are files on German trade with the colonial empire and on broad British economic and political interests, as well as British policy towards South-East Asia in relation to Japanese influence. There is also material on the implications of cotton price regulations for East and West African production. There are letters from the Sudan, the Middle East and Jamaica during the 1950s.

T 273 **Bridges Papers, 1920 to 1956, 443 files**

The class includes papers collected by Lord Bridges as secretary to the Cabinet (1939 to 1945) and as permanent secretary of the Treasury and official head of the Civil Service (1945 to 1956). There is a small quantity of material on the appointment of Colonial Office officials and on the organization of the Colonial Office.

6.3.2 Other Classes

The Treasury created or acquired several other types of records which contain relevant material.

T 165 **Blue Notes, 1880 to 1968, 445 volumes, files**

These contain unpublished briefs for ministers involved in committee discussions about supply issues and information relating to the setting up of departments and their functions. They are a good source for the administrative history of government departments. They include historical and general memoranda on the Colonial Office, colonial services, Middle East services, the Central African Office and Department of Overseas Trade as well as on interdepartmental committees. Some of the memoranda relate to colonial development and welfare, the Colonial Development Fund and the administration of certain African territories. They contain estimates of revenue and expenditure, and information on administrative policies. T 160 and T 233 also contain blue notes.

T 252 **Treasury Deposit Accounts Ledgers, 1918 to 1934, 7 volumes**

The ledgers comprise income/expenditure figures for funds not covered under the main exchequer account. They include information on the Colonial Development Fund, colonial contributions to the war and sale of colonial production. There are investment and profit figures for most regions of the empire.

T 263 **United Kingdom Commercial Corporation, 1940 to 1957, 365 books, files**

The corporation was formed as a result of an interdepartmental committee decision to set up a semi-independent organization to block supplies from reaching Germany during the war. Initially it focused on European trade, but its interests then broadened to include the Middle East and Africa. The companies that made up the corporation

covered regional zones and operated there until 1958 when the UKCC was liquidated. The Treasury inherited the files from the liquidators. Some files relate to the formation and activities of the East Africa, Iraq, Palestine and Sudan companies. The head office records also include monthly reports on the companies between 1941 and 1943. There is also information on the Middle East Board of Directors and the Cabinet appointed Middle East Supplies Committee (Washington). See also BT 42.

6.4 LISTS OF TREASURY MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS

The lists cover only the period 1925 to 1957.

6.4.1 Ministers

Chancellor of the Exchequer

6 Nov 1924	W Churchill
7 June 1929	P Snowden
5 Nov 1931	N Chamberlain
28 May 1937	Sir J Simon
12 May 1940	Sir K Wood
24 Sep 1943	Sir J Anderson
24 July 1945	H Dalton
13 Nov 1947	Sir S Cripps
19 Oct 1950	H Gaitskell
28 Oct 1951	R Butler
20 Dec 1955	H Macmillan
13 Jan 1957	P Thorneycroft

Financial Secretary

1924	W Guinness
1925-1927	R McNeill
1927-1929	A M Samuel
1929-1931	F W Pethick-Lawrence
1931-1932	W E Elliot
1932-1934	L Hore-Belisha
1934-1935	A Duff-Cooper
1935-1936	W S Morrison
1936-1938	J Colville
1938-1939	E Wallace
1939-1943	H Crookshank
1943-1944	R Assheton
1944-1945	O Peake
1945-1950	W Hall
1950-1951	D Jay

1951-1954	J A Boyd Carpenter
1954-1957	H Brooke
1957-1958	E Powell

Economic Secretary

This office was created in 1947.

1947-1950	D Jay
1950-1951	J Edwards
1952-1955	R Maudling
1955-1956	E Boyle
1956-1957	D W Smith
1957-1958	N Birch

6.4.2 Officials

Permanent Secretary and Head of HM Civil Service

1919-1939	Sir W Fisher
1939-1942	Sir H J Wilson
1942-1945	Sir R V Hopkins
1945-1956	Sir E Bridges
1956-1959	Sir R Makins
1956-1962	Sir N C Brook

CHAPTER 7

MAJOR CLASSES OF COLONIAL/IMPERIAL RELEVANCE IN THE RECORDS OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS

This list provides an overview of record classes identified as having material relevant to colonial/imperial affairs for departments other than the Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Commonwealth Office, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Cabinet Office, Prime Minister's Office and Treasury. It has been compiled by searching and sampling the lists of all modern UK government departments for the period 1925 to 1957. There are undoubtedly other classes with scattered colonial references.

In addition to its general use in helping readers to be aware of the range of sources available for the study of colonial affairs, the list should help to trace the records of departments identified elsewhere in the guide as having an interest in specific colonial issues. See particularly Chapter 2 on Cabinet committees, Chapter 8 on interdepartmental committees and Chapter 9 on international organizations.

ADM CLASSES: RECORDS OF THE ADMIRALTY, NAVAL FORCES, ROYAL MARINES, COAST GUARD AND RELATED BODIES

ADM 123 Africa Station Records Correspondence, 1797 to 1932, 185 volumes

Coast of Africa station records relating to general service proceedings and material on British interests in African territories. See, for example, material on civil disturbances and 'native' uprisings on the west coast of Africa (1919-1930).

ADM 127 East Indies Station Records, Correspondence 1808 to 1930, 71 volumes

Correspondence concerning India, Ceylon, Burma, Aden, the Red Sea, the Persian Coast, the east coast of Africa and islands in the Indian Ocean.

ADM 182 Admiralty Fleet Orders, 1909 to 1964, 293 volumes and booklets

Printed routine orders. From 1921, there are two series of Admiralty Fleet Orders and Confidential Admiralty Fleet Orders, which were similarly arranged. In 1951 a third series of Limited Confidential Admiralty Fleet Orders was introduced. The orders cover matters of general interest, or requiring wide circulation including technical, administrative and disciplinary regulations, official instructions and information.

ADM 187 War of 1939-1945 Pink List, 1939 to 1945, 55 volumes

These monitor stations and movements of Royal Naval ships and units. Arranged chronologically.

ADM 199 War History Cases and Papers, 1935 to 1956, 2521 volumes and files

These documents relate to the administration of the navy, and planning and execution of naval operations during the Second World War. There is material, for example, on naval operations in Burma and South-East Asia.

ADM 205 First Sea Lord Papers, 1937 to 1965, 220 volumes and files

These papers relate to all aspects of administration and strategy, especially during and after the Second World War. For instance, there is material on the employment of West African manpower (1945).

ADM 214 Civil Engineer in Chief: Papers, 1788 to 1962, 42 files and volumes

Miscellaneous records relating to projects carried out or examined by the Civil Engineer in Chief's Department at home and overseas, including the construction of the Singapore Base.

ADM 219 Directorate of Naval Operational Studies: Reports, 1941 to 1964, 633 files

The directorate was established to analyse and improve naval operations and techniques employed. The class contains reports issued by the group, for instance: Protection of Shipping in the Indian Ocean, 1944.

AIR CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE AIR MINISTRY AND SUCCESSOR, THE ROYAL AIR FORCE, AND RELATED BODIES

AIR 2 Air Ministry: Registered Files, 1887 to 1985, 18,150 files

Registered files from within the ministry, but also including some from the War Office, Admiralty and Air Boards. They comprise policy, case, committee and miscellaneous papers concerning British air administration and related topics. Some papers have been extracted for the official history, and are now in AIR 1 and AIR 5. There are, for instance, files pertaining to the Sudan (1924-1931), the Aden Protectorate (1929-1932), the British garrison in Iraq (1933-1934) and on the requisitioning of sites for the RAF in Malaya (1925-1938).

AIR 5 Air Historical Branch Records, Series II, 1914 to 1959, 1437 files, etc

See, for example, files on the India, Iraq and Aden Commands, 1930-1938.

AIR 8 Chief of the Air Staff, 1916 to 1982, 2459 files, etc

Records formerly held in the Office of the Chief of Air Staff covering all aspects of air force policy and planning. The list is arranged chronologically.

- AIR 9 Director of Plans, 1914 to 1947, 494 files, etc

Records of the deputy director of plans in the Directorate of Operations and Intelligence, and, from 1939, of the director of plans. The records relate to strategic and operational planning before and during the Second World War.

- AIR 20 Unregistered Papers, 1874 to 1981, 12,041 files, folders, bound volumes and papers

The bulk of the class relates to the Second World War and the immediate pre- and post-war years, and concerns a variety of air services and units, such as the Empire Air Navigation School as well as commands in Britain and overseas. Included are some papers of Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Sir Henry Tizard and Sir Harold Howitt. See *List and Index Society*, volume 128.

- AIR 23 Overseas Commands, 1916 to 1976, 8683 files, folders and volumes

The files are listed under command and unit titles. The class includes reports, correspondence, etc on operations of the Iraq, India, Aden, Middle East and Far East Commands; war diaries of Air HQ, RAF Iraq (1923-1930); records of the administration and operations of the various RAF commands in the Mediterranean, North Africa, the Middle East, India and the Far East during the Second World War.

- AIR 24 Operations Record Books: Commands, 1920 to 1970, 2846 volumes, folders and files

Daily records of events in each command or force, including Aden, Ceylon, East Africa, Egypt, the Far East, Gibraltar, Iraq, Persia, Malaya and the Middle East.

- AIR 28 Operations Record Books: RAF Stations, 1913 to 1966, 1702 files, volumes, folders and boxes

These include records for stations in many parts of the empire.

- AIR 29 Operations Record Books: Miscellaneous Units, 1912 to 1971, 3645 volumes, files and folders

Operations record books were kept by units to record daily events. In this case most relate to the period following 1935. There are place and unit indexes. Egypt, the Middle East, Ghana, Burma, and Ceylon all figure in the geographical index.

- AIR 32 Air Training Commands, 1939 to 1970, 163 files

Organizational and administrative records of Flying Training Command and Technical Training Command which were responsible for RAF training. Files include the papers of the Empire Air Armament and Navigation School.

- AIR 40 Directorate of Intelligence and other Intelligence Papers, 1926 to 1963, 2620 files and volumes

This class consists of various intelligence reports, narratives and surveys of enemy capabilities. Reports of operations carried out against the enemy and of interrogation of prisoners of war are also included. The organizations which, in addition to the Directorate of Intelligence, have been responsible for the records in this class include the Directorates of Air Tactics and Bomber Operations of the Department of the Chief of Air Staff, the Special Investigation Branch (reporting on war crimes) and various commands and other units at home and abroad. A substantial number of files relate to the air forces and commands of the USAAF. There are also some records of the Joint Intelligence Bureau of the Ministry of Defence. See *List and Index Society*, volume 209.

- AIR 46 Air Missions, 1939-1960, 63 files

Records of the Air Liaison Missions to Canada, South Africa and Egypt, including some relating to the Empire Air Training Scheme.

AVIA CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE MINISTRY OF AVIATION AND SUCCESSORS, THE AIR REGISTRATION BOARD AND RELATED BODIES

- AVIA 2 Air Ministry Civil Aviation Files, 1909 to 1958, 2847 files

The files relate to all aspects of civil aviation business and were mainly created during the period when civil aviation was the responsibility of the Air Ministry (1919 to 1945). From April 1945 the files include papers added by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and, from October 1953, a few from the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.

- AVIA 7 Royal Radar Establishment Files, 1917 to 1969, 3736 files

Files of the Experimental Section Royal Engineers, subsequently the Air Defence Experimental Establishment of the War Office, and of its various successors at the Ministry of Supply; and of the Air Ministry's Bawdsey Research Station. See, for instance, files relating to stations at Alexandria, Aden and Haifa.

- AVIA 9 Ministry of Aircraft Production: Private Office Papers, 1940 to 1947, 95 files

These consist of unregistered papers of ministers and parliamentary under-secretaries, and include files on the Gold Coast and the Middle East.

AVIA 11 Ministry of Supply: Private Office Papers, 1939 to 1949, 69 files

Papers of the wartime ministers and parliamentary secretaries.

AVIA 12 Ministry of Supply: Unregistered Papers, 1928 to 1970, 270 files and reports

Mainly records of the wartime Ministry of Supply, with some inherited pre-war and post-war documents. There are also papers of permanent secretaries, committee records, reports of missions and other visits as well as miscellaneous unregistered papers.

AVIA 22 Ministry of Supply Registered Files, 1934 to 1962, 3336 files

Files of the ministry which relate to functions not transferred to the War Office in 1959. Files which were transferred are in WO 32 and WO 185. For example, there are files on American demands on British production (1942-1946) and on a variety of raw materials, such as tin and tungsten, from commonwealth countries.

AVIA 38 North American Supplies, 1933 to 1947, 1283 files

This class contains material on the procurement of military supplies from North America during the Second World War. More particularly, it contains records of: the British Purchasing Commission in the United States, which in July 1942 was renamed the British Ministry of Supply Mission of the British Air Commission to the United States; of the British Supply Council in North America, established in Washington in January 1941, and consisting of the heads of the various missions there; of the Civil Secretariat, whose main task was to co-ordinate the day to day work of the civil missions and colonial boards; and of the Combined Production and Resources Board, which was set up in Washington in June 1942 to co-ordinate the production of war material in Britain, the USA and later Canada. There are also files of various senior officials of these agencies.

AVIA 45 Tropical Testing Establishment Nigeria: Reports and Memoranda, 1945 to 1968, 808 files

Reports and memoranda on the susceptibility of equipment and materials to deterioration under tropical conditions, and quarterly reports on the work of the establishment from 1951 to 1958.

AVIA 46 Ministry of Supply Files: Series I (Establishment), 1832 to 1956, 541 files

Mainly consists of a series of historical files containing narratives and documents dealing with events and developments before and during the Second World War. They include material relating to the Ministry of Supply, Air Ministry, Ministry of Aircraft Production, research establishments and the control of raw materials.

AVIA 57 Ministry of Supply Files: Series 12 (Disposals), 1939 to 1958, 41 files

These relate to the disposal of armaments, aircraft and machinery surpluses. They cover policy on overseas disposal, looking, for example, at the sale of surplus stores to dominions, foreign governments and home government departments (1947 to 1949).

AY CLASSES: RECORDS OF VARIOUS RESEARCH INSTITUTES

AY 3 Tropical Products Institute: Committee Papers, 1916 to 1978, 362 files

These are records of, or relating to, various advisory and consultative committees of the Tropical Products Institute and its predecessors. Until 1949 these are mainly files of the Imperial Institute; then of the Colonial Products Advisory Bureau (Plant and Animal) from 1949 to 1952, of the Colonial Products Laboratory from 1953 to 1957, and thereafter of the Tropical Products Institute. The class also contains files of the Colonial Products Research Council, 1943 to 1953; of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Headquarters, 1961 to 1964, relating to the Tropical Products Institute Committee; and, from 1965, of the Ministry of Overseas Development relating to the Tropical Products Institute Advisory Committee. It also includes some copies of committee papers of the Agricultural Research Council and of minutes of the Chemistry Research Board of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

AY 4 Tropical Products Institute: Registered Files, 1895 to 1969, 2593 files

This class consists mainly of registered files of the Tropical Products Institute, and of its predecessors, the Plant and Animal Products Department of the Imperial Institute to 1949, the Colonial Products Advisory Bureau (Plant and Animal) 1949 to 1952, and the Colonial Products Laboratory 1953 to 1957, relating to scientific investigations and enquiries undertaken by them. The class also contains files of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research relating to the Institute, 1959 to 1965, and of the Colonial Products Research Council (later the Colonial Products Council), 1959 to 1965.

AY 11 Anti-Locust Research Centre: Correspondence and Papers, 1925 to 1965, 332 files

These are records of the Anti-Locust Research Centre and of its predecessors, the Locust Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research and the Committee on Locust Control. They include papers on the organization of research, international co-operation and overseas visits, reports and correspondence from field officers, as well as personal files. Other pre-war records relating to locust control are in CAB 58.

- AY 12 Tropical Products Institute: Colonial Development Corporation Agricultural Projects, 1954 to 1958, 8 files

Files of the institute and its predecessor, the Colonial Products Laboratory, relating to the Colonial Development Corporation Agricultural Projects Panel of Scientific Advisers. They consist mainly of agenda, papers and minutes. The series relates mainly to the pulping characteristics of tropical timber.

- AY 18 Princes Risborough Laboratory: Reports, 1924 to 1972, 1476 files, reports and microfiche copies

The Forest Products Research Board was formed in 1921 under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. The records in this class, many of which are in the form of microfiche copies, deal with research carried out in mechanical testing of various home-grown and empire timbers, methods of preservation and seasoning, research into wood chemistry, etc. See also under DSIR classes for registered files of the Forest Products Research Board and Laboratory.

- AY 20 Anti-Locust Research Centre: Uvarov Diaries and Papers, 1907 to 1971, 85 files, volumes and maps

A selection of the private papers of Sir Boris Uvarov (1888-1970), director of the centre, 1945-1959, including diaries and papers about his travels in East Africa, French West Africa and the Middle East.

BT CLASSES: RECORDS OF THE BOARD OF TRADE AND OF SUCCESSOR AND RELATED BODIES

- BT 7 Cotton Control Board, 1915 to 1928, 48 boxes, etc

The board was formed to regulate the cotton industry during the First World War, but also advised on reconstruction. The class consists of ledgers and other financial records, regulations, circulars, miscellaneous books and papers. Includes list of firms.

- BT 10 Import Duties Advisory Committee, 1931 to 1945, 156 boxes and volumes

Papers and minutes of the committee, copies of relevant Treasury orders and trade agreements made with overseas countries.

- BT 11 Commercial Department: Correspondence and Papers, 1866 to 1975, 6819 boxes, files

The department was founded in the nineteenth century and was mainly concerned with tariffs, commercial treaties, imports, exports and commercial policy at home and abroad; it licensed and regulated exports during the Second World War. The class

includes material on imperial preference, for instance with regard to East Africa coffee.

BT 25 Supplies to Liberated Areas Secretariat, 1944 to 1948, 92 boxes

This secretariat was set up in the Ministry of Production in 1944 to co-ordinate the provision of supplies to areas conquered or liberated during the war. It ceased to exist in 1948 when UNRRA completed its activities. There is material, for example, on the Far East, including Malaya, and estimates and requirements for relief in West Africa and the Middle East. The list is in two parts, a numerical list of boxes and a descriptive list.

BT 28 Ministry of Production Correspondence and Papers, 1936 to 1946, 1190 boxes

Records of the Ministry of Production, including some of the Ministry of Supply, which passed to the Board of Trade. Numerical indexes to the correspondence are in BT 29 and subject indexes in BT 30. See also BT 87.

BT 29 Ministry of Production Numerical Indexes to Correspondence, 1936 to 1946, 8 volumes

BT 30 Ministry of Production Subject Indexes to Correspondence, 1936 to 1946, 13 volumes

BT 31 Companies Registration Office Files of Dissolved Companies, 1855 to 1970, 43,681 boxes, volumes and files

Files of dissolved companies of all kinds incorporated between 1856 and 1931 and dissolved before 1932; files of public and private non-exempt companies incorporated up to 1962 and dissolved between 1943 and 1963, with a one per cent sample of files of exempt private companies. There are records of many companies which operated in the overseas territories. This class is open. There is a Companies Registration Office classified index to the files of dissolved exempt private companies in BT 95.

BT 55 Records of Departmental Committees, 1910 to 1959, 127 boxes and files

These are the papers of various boards, committees and sub-committees of the Board of Trade or on which the board was represented. They include scattered colonial material. For instance, there are files on colonial produce and on the 1932 Ottawa economic conference. A number of the committees were concerned with commodities produced in the empire, notably cotton and flax.

BT 59 Department of Overseas Trade, Overseas Trade Development Council, 1930 to 1939, 29 boxes

Registered files, arranged chronologically, on a variety of trade issues, such as UK trade missions to the Far East, 1930, proposed trade investigation into the Sudan, etc.

- BT 60 Department of Overseas Trade Correspondence and Papers, 1918 to 1946, 105 boxes, volumes and files
- General correspondence of the department which was the joint responsibility of the Board of Trade and the Foreign Office. It was abolished in March 1946 when functions were transferred to the Board of Trade Export Promotion Department.
- BT 61 Department of Overseas Trade Establishment Files, 1918 to 1946, 82 boxes
- BT 64 Industries and Manufactures Department: Correspondence and Papers, 1919 to 1970, 5364 boxes and files
- Primarily of UK domestic interest, but there are some overseas files.
- BT 87 Ministry of Production: Ministers' and Officials' Papers, 1939 to 1945, 198 files
- Private office papers of the minister of production, Oliver Lyttelton, and of his senior officials, including Sir Walter Layton and Sir Robert Sinclair. The papers contain material on the procurement of supplies from North America. There is mention of the storage of supplies in the Middle East and of empire requirements for, and supplies of, new materials.
- BT 88 Post-war Commodity Policy and Relief Department, 1939 to 1943, 93 files
- Before March 1942 these are the records of the Export Surpluses Department under the Minister Without Portfolio, and thereafter of the Post-War Commodity Policy and Relief Department of the Board of Trade.
- BT 90 Advisory Committee to the Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence) Minutes and Papers, 1918 to 1930, 26 files
- See BT 59 after 1930.
- BT 96 Industrial Supplies Department, 1937 to 1948, 227 files
- Before 1939 and after 1945, these are the records of the Industries and Manufactures Department; from 1939 to 1945 they are the records of the Industrial Supplies Department. Many of the later files relate to post-war reconstruction.
- BT 131 War Histories (1939-1945) Files, 1916 to 1952, 116 files
- Copies of documents extracted from registered files by the official historians in the course of their work on the Board of Trade *History of the Second World War - Civil Industry and Trade*; and material collected in the Ministry of Supply and subsequently transferred to the Board of Trade for the preparation of the *History of the Second*

World War - The Control of Raw Materials. The former papers include series of minutes of meetings of departmental and inter-departmental committees; the latter are mainly narratives relating to various commodities.

BT 134 Raw Cotton Commission, 1947 to 1969, 4 files

BT 161 Ministry of Materials: Files, 1939 to 1958, 257 files

A selection of those files registered in the Ministry of Materials and not subsequently re-registered in the Board of Trade.

BT 168 Ministry of Production: Regional Boards of Industry, 1940 to 1951, 239 files and volumes

Files of the Production Council's Industrial Capacity Committee, the Production Executive, the Ministry of Production and the Board of Trade relating to their responsibilities and their regional organization. They include papers on the constitution and functions of the regional boards, on the Citrine Committee, organization and functions of the Production Executive and reconversion of industry after the war.

BT 175 Cotton Board and Textile Council: Minutes and Papers, 1939 to 1972, 182 files

Minutes of the board and council and their sub-committees, and files of correspondence, including the papers of Lord Rochdale as chairman, 1960-1971.

BT 185 International Beef Conference, 1937 to 1939, 4 volumes

Agenda, papers and minutes. See also BT 11/1521.

BT 188 Imperial Shipping Committee, 1920 to 1965, 301 files

Later known as the Commonwealth Shipping Committee. The class includes minutes of meetings, reports, papers and correspondence.

BT 202 Information Division Files, 1944 to 1959, 33 files

The files deal with questions of publicity at home and abroad.

BT 205 Tariff Division Files, 1938 to 1972, 422 files

There is material on various international agreements and preferential agreements with commonwealth countries.

BT 207 Department of Overseas Trade: Monthly Bulletins of Information, 1919 to 1939, 13 volumes

- BT 213 Commodity and General Division and successors: Registered Files, 1949 to 1971, 440 files
- A highly varied series of files which contains information relevant to the post-war British export drive. Subjects include the balance of payments, overseas markets, investments and development schemes in commonwealth countries.
- BT 225 Export Promotion Department, 1938 to 1949, 55 files
- Created in April 1946 after the dissolution of the Department of Overseas Trade, the department merged in January 1949 with the Commercial Relations and Treaties Department, and assumed responsibility for trade policy and promotion.
- BT 230 Import Licensing Branch, 1923 to 1966, 472 files
- Created during the First World War to conserve foreign exchange and deal with limited shipping space, the branch was reintroduced on a larger scale during the Second World War and was wound down gradually after 1956.
- BT 245 Civil Aviation Departments: Air Services and International Relations Group, 1939 to 1988, 1246 files
- The files cover civil air services, and international relations.
- BT 258 Industries and Manufactures Department: Registered Files (IM (P G & R suffix) Series), 1887 to 1982, 2406 files
- These consist of policy, general and record files of the Industries and Manufactures Department (IM) files series. This was a single numerical series in which each file was given an appropriate suffix, P for policy, G for general and R for background information.

BW CLASSES: RECORDS OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL

- BW 1 British Council: Registered Files, General Series, 1936 to 1985, 343 files
- These cover broad policy issues and financial matters, as well as specific events, such as concert tours.
- BW 2 British Council: Registered Files, GB Series, 1934 to 1986, 648 files and volumes
- The class includes papers of committees, of the council, office circulars, reports on visits abroad and files on a variety of cultural and publicity activities as well as on office matters.

- BW 5 British Council: Registered Files, Aden, 1939 to 1962, 7 files
- BW 7 British Council: Registered Files, East Africa, 1941 to 1955, 4 files
- BW 8 British Council: Registered Files, West Africa, 1939 to 1949, 8 files
- BW 17 British Council: Registered Files, British West Indies, 1935 to 1954, 13 files
- BW 19 British Council: Registered Files, Burma, 1940 to 1959, 7 files
- BW 21 British Council: Registered Files, Ceylon, 1937 to 1946, 3 files
- BW 29 British Council: Registered Files, Egypt, 1935 to 1959, 51 files
- BW 41 British Council: Registered Files, Jamaica, 1939 to 1959, 4 files
- BW 43 British Council: Registered Files, Malta, 1938 to 1959, 11 files
- BW 47 British Council: Registered Files, Palestine, 1937 to 1953, 14 files
- BW 55 British Council: Registered Files, Sierra Leone, 1942 to 1962, 4 files
- BW 59 British Council: Registered Files, Syria, 1943 to 1959, 9 files
- BW 60 British Council: Registered Files: Jordan (formerly Transjordan), 1940 to 1962, 6 files
- BW 71 British Council: Advisory Committee on English Overseas: Minutes, 1941 to 1943, 1 volume
- BW 77 Joint Standing Committee of Colonial Office and British Council: Minutes and Papers, 1942 to 1945, 1 volume
- BW 82 British Council: Secretariat: Miscellanea, 1933 to 1954, 23 files, volumes

Includes some letters relating to the Middle East, as well as to overseas students.
- BW 88 British Council: Registered Files, Sudan, 1938 to 1956, 2 files
- BW 90 Inter-University Council for Higher Education Overseas: Correspondence and Papers, 1929 to 1984, 2550 files

The council was set up in 1946 to promote co-operation between the universities in the United Kingdom and the colonies. It was independent of the government, and in 1955 its mandate was extended beyond the colonies. It was amalgamated with the British

Council in 1981. The files are arranged geographically and by subject. There is material on universities in all parts of the empire.

- BW 91 Technical Education and Training Organization for Overseas Countries: Correspondence and Papers, 1949 to 1984, 1074 files

The first advisory body concerned with the development of technical education overseas, the Advisory Committee for Colonial Colleges of Arts, Science and Technology (ACCAST) was appointed in 1949. It was replaced by the Council for Overseas Colleges of Arts, Sciences and Technology (COCAST) in 1957 and by the Council for Technical Education and Training (TETOC) in 1962. These bodies were established to advise the secretary of state for the colonies, and were complementary to the agency described in BW 90. TETOC made recommendations on the use of aid funds and acted as a recruiting agency. In 1972 it became a limited company although it was funded by a grant-in-aid from the Overseas Development Administration. In 1981 the British Council assumed responsibility for TETOC. The files are indexed by place and by subject and contain information on educational development in most territories.

- BW 92 British Council: Registered Files, Bahamas, 1947 to 1950, 1 file
- BW 93 British Council: Registered Files, Ghana, 1947 to 1957, 6 files
- BW 94 British Council: Registered Files, Hong Kong, 1946 to 1960, 3 files
- BW 95 British Council: Registered Files, Kenya, 1946 to 1956, 4 files
- BW 98 British Council: Registered Files, Sarawak, 1950 to 1960, 4 files
- BW 102 British Council: Registered Files, The Gambia, 1946 to 1959, 2 files
- BW 104 British Council: Registered Files, Malaysia, 1946 to 1962, 3 files

CAOG CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE CROWN AGENTS FOR OVERSEA GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS

- CAOG 1 Accounts and Finance Department Representative Papers, 1930 to 1959, 10 volumes
- Reports on the Joint Colonial Fund, the Joint Consolidated Funds, etc; records of colonial funds and general accounts.
- CAOG 5 Stores Purchasing Department Representative Papers, 1925 to 1956, 6 files
- Includes papers of the Civil and Mechanical Engineering Advisory Service, and records relating to railways in several territories. See also CAOG 12.

CAOG 9 Finance Files, 1860 to 1979, 363 files

These mainly pertain to loans under the Colonial Loans and other acts. Some files relate to the general financial position of certain territories and regions, currency questions and general principles of colonial investment. There is some correspondence about the Joint Colonial (Consolidated) Fund, especially regarding the effects of the 1931 financial crisis.

CAOG 10 Engineering Files, 1885 to 1973, 173 files

Most of the files relate to specific public works projects in British territories and elsewhere, including agricultural developments such as the East Africa Groundnut Scheme.

CAOG 12 Purchasing Files, 1863 to 1973, 129 files

The records of this class are the files of the various purchasing divisions whose function since 1833 has been the expert buying of goods of all kinds in response to indents from principals and also the inspection of such goods where required. The files concern particular commodities, requirements of principals, general procedures and matters of policy. There are, for instance, files on the Gonja Development Company, Gold Coast (1951-1958) and on medical supplies in Ghana, Nigeria and Singapore (1953-1961). See also CAOG 5.

CAOG 13 Appointments and Passages Files, 1869 to 1982, 387 files

Files of the various appointments and passages divisions whose function has been to select candidates for overseas appointments and arrange sea or air passage for them. The files relate to the requirements of particular principals, commencing salaries, the nature of appointment and passage agreements, conditions of service, passage arrangements, procedures and policy matters. There are several files on recruitment policy for a wide variety of commonwealth countries, and some specific files, such as the Report of the Sinker Commission on the Civil Service 1953 (Sierra Leone).

CAOG 14 Relations with Principals Files, 1880 to 1975, 182 files

General correspondence with overseas principals about assistance provided. Subjects include negotiations, the role of the agents in the period before and after the granting of independence to colonial territories and advice on specific projects, such as railways. There are also papers on negotiations for the running of mineral and other concessions.

CAOG 17 Miscellaneous Files, 1860 to 1977, 149 files

Created from a variety of small registered file series, the class relates to the Crown Agents' activities in London and relations with government departments and foreign departments for which they were not acting.

DEFE CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE, AND RELATED BODIES**DEFE 2** Combined Operations Headquarters Records, 1937 to 1962, 2074 volumes and files

Records include war diaries and administrative files on the planning and execution of combined operations. There are files, for example, on the East Africa Command.

DEFE 7 Registered Files: General Series, 1942 to 1979, 2320 files

Registered files of the Ministry of Defence, established in 1946 to co-ordinate the policies of the three armed services. They are registered in a general numerical series, relating to a wide range of topics and are arranged by file number order within each transfer. There are, for instance, files pertaining to Egypt, Palestine, and Malaya.

DEFE 9 Tizard Papers, 1945 to 1952, 35 files

Papers collected by Sir Henry Tizard while chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee. There are a few files relating to the Commonwealth.

DEFE 10 Major Committees: Minutes and Papers, 1942 to 1976, 504 volumes

The class contains minutes, memoranda and related papers of various committees and working parties set up to advise the minister of defence. Papers are arranged alphabetically by committee title within each transfer.

DEFE 11 Chiefs of Staff Committee: Registered Files, 1946 to 1973, 513 files

On the formation of the Ministry of Defence in 1946 a secretariat for the Chiefs of Staff was established to carry out work which had formerly been undertaken by the Military Secretariat of the War Cabinet. The class consists of registered files of the secretariat dealing with defence matters both at home and abroad. They are arranged in file number order within each transfer.

DEFE 13 Private Office Papers, 1950 to 1976, 554 files

Records created in the Private Office of the Minister of Defence relating to strategic or political issues and to senior appointments. Includes material on the Aden Protectorate (1954-1955).

- DEFE 16 Australian Royal Commission into United Kingdom Nuclear Weapons Testing in Australia: Photocopies of Documents Presented in Evidence, c.1947 to 1985, 975 photocopies of extracts from files

DSIR CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH, AND OF RELATED BODIES

- DSIR 3 Research Boards and Committees 1916 to 1939: Correspondence and Minutes, 1915 to 1940, 392 files

Records of research boards and committees which were established by DSIR and wound up by 1939. They explore specific fields of investigation. The material consists of meetings files of various committees as well as research files. There appears to be little of direct relevance to the overseas territories, but the Forest Trees Research and the Timber Research Organization had an indirect influence. Records of those which continued after 1939 are in DSIR 4-DSIR 14, DSIR 17 and DSIR 19-DSIR 21.

- DSIR 4 Building Research: Correspondence and Papers, 1889 to 1980, 3696 files

A Building Materials Research Committee was set up in 1917, and by 1921 there was a small laboratory at Acton and finally a permanent base at Watford. Its function was to conduct research towards maximizing efficiency and economy in building and in allied branches of civil engineering. It had some colonial involvement. For instance, there were experiments conducted in the Gold Coast, and in 1945 a proposal to establish a Colonial Housing Bureau attached to the Building Research Station was considered.

- DSIR 7 Forest Products Research Board and Laboratory: Files, 1920 to 1965, 304 files

The board was established in 1921 to deal with problems connected with the utilization of forest products which would be of direct assistance to various parts of the empire and particularly to the crown colonies. There were committees on Empire Timber (1928 to 1935) and Colonial Timbers (1945), and the board co-operated with researchers in Nigeria and elsewhere in the empire.

- DSIR 12 Road Research Board, 1931 to 1965, 477 files, etc

Files relating to the board, and minutes of its meetings and those of its committees. The board was set up to study particular aspects of research into road construction, materials and safety. The class also contains files on co-operative research undertaken jointly with other bodies. There is material pertaining to Nigerian Roads (1947), soils in the Middle East, the economics of road transport in Uganda and colonial road research in general (from 1955).

DSIR 13 Water Pollution Research Board and Laboratory, 1920 to 1967, 672 files

The board was set up in 1927 to submit schemes for research on the prevention of pollution, and to supervise the execution of approved investigations. From 1940, there is a foreign and colonial correspondence series, which includes material on water supply and pollution in Accra (1949-1954) and on the Malacca Rubber Works.

DSIR 15 Imperial Trust, 1916 to 1956, 49 files, etc

Records relating to the constitution, functions, investments, payments and grants of the Imperial Trust.

DSIR 17 Registered Files: General Series, 1915 to 1969, 1013 files and volumes

Policy and procedure files relating to the setting up of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and its various boards and committees; the British Commonwealth Scientific Conference, 1936; finance; grants to universities, institutes, research workers and students; and various research proposals and projects.

DSIR 21 Pest Infestation Research Committees, 1938 to 1960, 67 files

Minutes and files of the Standing Conference and Research Committee on Infestation of Stored Grain and Grain Products by Insects, Pest Infestation Research Board, etc. There are files on liaison with the Colonial Office. See also DSIR 25.

DSIR 25 Pest Infestation Research Laboratory Papers, 1939 to 1954, 85 files

This is very technical material, and includes relevant reports such as the one on 'Damage to Cocoa Beans'.

DSIR 45 Intelligence Division: Registered Files, 1942 to 1963, 55 files

Files of the Intelligence Division (later renamed the Information Division) reflecting its responsibility for disseminating information about research work and for overseas liaison on scientific matters. There are some relevant files, such as one entitled 'Mineral Development in Great Britain and the Colonies, 1952- 1955'.

ED CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE, AND OF RELATED BODIES

ED 25 Universities Bureau of the British Empire and British National Committee on Intellectual Co-operation Papers, 1922 to 1946, 95 files, etc

The records, which originated with the UNESCO branch of the Ministry of Education, include correspondence, minutes, reports and papers of the Bureau, the committee and the British Council for the Interchange of Teachers with Foreign Countries.

ED 26 Imperial Institute Files, 1904 to 1948, 286 files, seal

Correspondence and papers of the Board of Trade (1903-1907) and Department of Overseas Trade, 1925-1948, relating to the administration of the Imperial Institute (now the Commonwealth Institute). See also CO 323.

HO CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE HOME OFFICE, MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY, AND RELATED BODIES

HO 213 Home Office: Aliens Department: General (GEN) Files and Aliens' Naturalization and Nationality (ALN and NTY Symbol Series) Files, 1920 to 1961, 1560 files

Registered files of the Aliens Department of the Home Office. These are policy files relating to the definitions of British and foreign nationality, naturalizations, immigration, refugees, internees and prisoners of war, the employment of foreign labour, deportation and related matters. Also papers relating to departmental committees, statistics, conferences, conventions and treaties on these subjects.

HO 215 Internment: General Files, 1940 to 1951, 504 files

These files cover the Home Office responsibilities for enemy aliens and British subjects interned. The class includes reports by the International Red Cross or the protecting power on conditions in British internment camps and in enemy internment or prisoner of war camps.

HO 240 Anglo-Egyptian Resettlement Board: Files, 1956 to 1962, 115 files

The purpose of the board was to assist British refugees expelled from Egypt.

INF CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION

INF 10 British Empire Collection of Photographs, 1945 to 1965, 394 bundles

A collection of approximately 8,000 photographs depicting the geography and way of life in British colonial and commonwealth territories.

INF 17 Empire and GPO Film Library: Correspondence, 1931 to 1951, 51 files

Papers relating to the supply of films to the Empire and GPO Film Library.

LAB CLASSES: RECORDS OF DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT MATTERS AND RELATED BODIES

LAB 2 Correspondence, 1897 to 1933, 2191 boxes and files.

Includes files on general questions of policy, covering the whole range of the Ministry of Labour's business.

LAB 13 International Labour Division and Overseas Department: Registered Files, 1923 to 1971, 1544 files

Files dealing mainly with the International Labour Office and OEEC. The class also contains records of various overseas labour attachés, including correspondence and reports, and some files concerning labour migration to and from the UK. For other records before 1934 see LAB 2.

LCO CLASSES: RECORDS OF THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE AND OF VARIOUS LEGAL COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

LCO 2 Registered Files, 1850 to 1984, 8072 files

Correspondence and papers of the Lord Chancellor's Office and the Crown Office (until 1921), relating to administrative, judicial, ecclesiastical and parliamentary powers and duties of the Lord Chancellor. Subjects include constitutional questions, the drafting and interpreting of legislation and general colonial and commonwealth matters.

MAF CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD DEPARTMENTS, AND OF RELATED BODIES

MAF 33 Agricultural Education and Research Correspondence and Papers, 1888 to 1963, 953 files, etc

Includes material on international imperial and commonwealth conferences, congresses and commissions; dairying, diseases of animals, feeding stuffs, rural industries; veterinary education and research.

MAF 40 Trade Relations and International Affairs: Correspondence and Papers, 1919 to 1973, 558 files

Documents concerning the ministry's international activities, for instance in relation to the League of Nations committees, world economic conferences and imperial economic co-operation. There are also papers dealing with import duties, tariffs and quotas for various commodities, including material on GATT.

- MAF 72 Board of Trade Food (Defence Plans) Department (1936 - 1939), 1935 to 1956, 728 files
- The class contains some later papers of the second Ministry of Food and records of the Overseas Purchases Board. It also includes papers of Sir Ernest Gowers resulting from an inquiry into food storage problems.
- MAF 74 Ministry of Food Central Registry: Correspondence and Papers, 1937 to 1955, 371 files
- Correspondence and papers first opened in the ministry's central registry prior to the decentralization of the registration system in 1940, and records of the Food (Defence Plans) Department of the Board of Trade.
- MAF 75 Ministry of Food Permanent Record of Operations (1939 to 1954), 1939 to 1954, 92 files and boxes
- This class records the main functions and activities of most of the divisions of the second Ministry of Food during its period of control. Two pieces are microfiche copies of the rest of the class.
- MAF 83 Ministry of Food: Supply Department: Supply Secretariat, 1939 to 1957, 3649 files
- Papers originating in branches once part of the Economics Division and its successors, the General Department and the Supply Secretariat. These deal with policy for the production, supply and distribution of food at home and overseas.
- MAF 87 Ministry of Food: Supply Department: Groceries and Sundries Group, 1939 to 1961, 425 files
- Records of the control division in charge of the procurement, distribution, processing, and, sometimes, wholesale and retail price control of products such as cocoa, coffee, tea and sugar.
- MAF 89 General Division Correspondence and Papers, 1921 to 1946, 13 files
- Files relating to post-war agricultural policy, business arising in connection with war damage and the preparation of reports on food production.
- MAF 97 Ministry of Food: Establishment Department: British Food Mission, Washington, 1941 to 1951, 2915 files
- This class contains the records of the British Food Mission, Washington, the British Food Mission for North America, the British Food Supply Office and the United Kingdom Treasury and Supply Delegation. For the records of the separate mission for Canada see MAF 104.

- MAF 104 Ministry of Food: Establishment Department: British Food Mission, Ottawa, 1943 to 1953, 123 files

This mission was part of the British Food Mission in Washington (see MAF 97) until a separate mission for Canada was formed in 1947. The files, which deal with arrangements of food supplies, are not a single series and apparently originated with the mission.

- MAF 117 Advisory Departments: Registered Files, Research Grants (RG Series), 1918 to 1975, 487 files

This class relates to a wide range of agricultural research and to the provision of land, buildings and equipment. It includes records of the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux Review Conference, 1955.

- MAF 127 Ministry of Food: Establishment Department, 1934 to 1957, 338 files and volumes

The class includes files on the setting up, staffing and organization of both the Food (Defence Plans) Department of the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Food, and on the liaison of the two during the transfer of functions. There is material on schemes for the distribution and control of food. Some files relate to the merging of the Ministry of Food with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

- MAF 151 Ministry of Food: Committees, 1938 to 1959, 438 volumes and files

Minutes and papers of committees set up by the ministry or on which it was represented. They include such bodies as the International Sugar Council, the Profit Margins Committee, and the International Wheat Conferences of 1947 and 1949. The committees in this class were set up under regulations made during the Second World War, some of which continued until the amalgamation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in 1955 and after.

- MAF 252 External Relations Divisions: Registered Files, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO Series), 1945 to 1973, 150 files

Files of the External Relations Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and its successors, dealing with the UK contribution to the work of the FAO.

MH CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SUCCESSORS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARDS AND RELATED BODIES

- MH 79 100,000 Series Files, 1913 to 1967, 659 files

Covers the administration of home and overseas health information services between 1945 and 1951.

MINT CLASSES: RECORDS OF THE ROYAL MINT

MINT 13 Coinage: Colonial and Foreign, 1684 to 1943, 247 volumes and files

Includes records relating to currencies, refineries and colonial and foreign mints.

MT CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENTS AND OF RELATED BODIES, AND OF THE LONDON PASSENGER TRANSPORT BOARD

MT 26 Board of Trade Marine Department, Local Marine Boards, 1850 to 1953, 51 volumes

Includes a register of investigations by local marine boards and by naval and colonial courts in cases of discipline (1906-1944).

MT 40 Sea Transport: Correspondence and Papers, 1903 to 1979, 250 files

Files relate to the control of shipping, especially the transport of troops and stores during the Second World War.

MT 59 Shipping Control and Operation: Correspondence and Papers, 1938 to 1970, 3394 files

Papers of the Ministry of Shipping, the Ministry of War Transport and the Ministry of Transport concerned with the centralized direction of shipping during the Second World War. The class includes records relating to the programming of civil and military requirements in the Middle East through the Middle East Supply Centre (see also FO 922) and post-war foreign shipping relations. Some files concern the administration of the Suez Canal after 1956.

MT 62 Private Office Papers, 1928 to 1953, 146 files and folders

Papers surviving from the private offices of various ministers and senior officials in the Ministries of Transport, Shipping and War Transport. They include, for instance, papers of Sir Arthur Salter, as head of the British Merchant Shipping Mission, Washington, 1941 to 1943. The class also contains minutes of the Shipping (Operation) Control, 1941 to 1946.

MT 63 Port and Transit: Correspondence and Papers, 1915 to 1957, 505 files

Most of the files are of the Directorate of Shipping in Port of the Ministry of Shipping and the Port and Transit Organization of the Ministries of Transport and War Transport from 1932 onwards. There are papers of the overseas Ministry of War Transport representatives and minutes and meetings of various committees including the Overseas Port and Transit Committee (1941-1945). In addition, there are peacetime records relating to ports, docks, canals, piers and harbours.

MT 72 European Recovery Programme: Shipping Arrangements, 1946 to 1959, 89 files

The class relates to maritime arrangements under the European Recovery Programme (the Marshall Plan) implemented under the US Foreign Assistance Act 1948, through which the USA provided aid for the development of European merchant shipping fleets. The files deal with Marshall Plan Aid to the UK (1947-1948), marine insurance, the UK export drive to the dollar area and the shipping of particular categories of goods. The class also contains minutes, agenda, reports and working documents on the Maritime Transport Committee, 1948 to 1955.

MT 73 General Shipping Policy: Files (GSP Series), 1922 to 1971, 464 files

Files of several ministries (Transport, War Transport and Transport and Civil Aviation), dealing with topics such as emigration to the Commonwealth and colonies, refugees, passenger air freight service and the Pan-African Transport Conference (1949-1950).

OD CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION, AND OF SUCCESSIVE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT BODIES**OD 1** Overseas Territories Income Tax Office, 1941 to 1972, 26 files

The Colonial Income Tax Office (renamed the Overseas Territories Income Tax Office in 1957) was established at the request of the colonies in 1942. Its aim was to assist in assessing the level of income tax to be levied on British companies in the territories and on pensioners from the territories resident in the UK. The office was wound up in 1972. The class includes papers dealing with appointments of official representatives and training arrangements as well as annual reports and accounts.

OD 3 Commonwealth Teacher Training Bursary Scheme, 1956 to 1965, 44 files

Files originating in the Ministry of Education. Some are general and some relate to particular countries and to individual education institutions in Britain.

OD 4 *Formerly* Land Resources Division: Reports

These reports are available for inspection by appointment at the Land Resources Development Centre, Tolworth.

OD 5 Directorate of Overseas Surveys: Directors Files, 1947 to 1964, 25 files and maps

These files relate to particular types of scientific survey and to the administration of surveys in particular countries.

- OD 6 Directorate of Overseas Surveys: Registered Files, 1939 to 1974, 1115 files, maps and plans

The class relates to general administration, map making, meteorological information and topographical surveys in the colonies and overseas territories.

PRO CLASSES: DOMESTIC RECORDS OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, OR RECORDS ACQUIRED BY GIFT OR DEPOSIT, AND OTHER COLLECTIONS AND COPIES OF RECORDS

- PRO 30 /52 League of Nations Assembly and Council Documents, 1920 to 1946, 768 boxes, etc

This class contains papers circulated to members of the League Council and Assembly and official journals of the League.

- PRO 30 /69 Ramsay MacDonald Papers, 1793 to 1937, 1834 files, volumes, diaries, photographs, etc

These include official papers of Ramsay MacDonald as prime minister and foreign secretary relating to political, constituency, personal and literary matters.

- PRO 30 /76 Imperial Institute Records, 1886 to 1958, 327 volumes and files

Records of the Imperial Institute from its foundation in 1886 until the passing of the Commonwealth Institute Act 1958.

- PRO 30 /78 Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry on Palestine, 1945 to 1947, 31 files and volumes

Minutes of hearings held in Washington, London, Cairo, and Jerusalem from January to March 1946; published report and proposals of the committee and *A Survey of Palestine*, prepared and published in 1946 by the Government of Palestine.

SUPP CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND SUCCESSORS, THE ORDNANCE BOARD AND RELATED BODIES

- SUPP 3 Principal Supply Officers Committee, 1917 to 1939, 88 boxes

The committee was formed by the Committee of Imperial Defence and the Board of Trade Supply Organization, which were responsible for supplies until 1939.

- SUPP 14 Ministry of Supply Files, 1917 to 1957, 1344 files

There are files on many raw materials. Marketing policy for colonial primary products (1947-1948) is a topic also discussed in these files.

TS CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE TREASURY SOLICITOR AND HM PROCURATOR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

- TS 27 Treasury Solicitor and HM Procurator General: Treasury and Miscellaneous; Registered Files (T and M Series), 1843 to 1971, 881 files and boxed papers

The papers of the Treasury Solicitor's Department were divided in the early twentieth century into several registered file series. This class deals with the questions submitted by the Treasury and miscellaneous departments not generally covered by more specialized series of files. The departments concerned include the Colonial Office, the Foreign Office, the Home Office and others.

WO CLASSES: RECORDS CREATED OR INHERITED BY THE WAR OFFICE, ARMED FORCES, JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL AND RELATED BODIES

- WO 24 Establishments, 1661 to 1666, 1108 volumes and files

Includes royal sign-manual warrants countersigned by the secretary at war authorizing the establishment of the various regiments of both the regular army and the military forces in the colonies. The warrants set out the costs of maintaining each regiment.

- WO 32 Registered Files: General Series, 1845 to 1985, 21,549 files and volumes

Registered files of the War Office and, from 1964, of the Army Department of the Ministry of Defence, dealing with all aspects of the administration of the departments and the armed forces. They include files opened by the War Office and continued in the Ministry of Supply in 1939.

- WO 106 Directorate of Military Operations and Intelligence, 1837 to 1961, 6156 boxes, volumes and files

Correspondence and papers of the directorates relating to various theatres of war, including the First and Second World Wars, and to administration, defence and other problems in Europe, America, Africa and Asia. See also WO 193.

- WO 113 Finance Department: Precedent Books, 1855 to 1963, 32 volumes and files

A collection of precedents from the Finance Department, some relating to financial transactions with colonial territories.

- WO 162 Adjutant General, 1847 to 1971, 324 files and volumes

Papers of the adjutant general, including some relating to the Committee on Drafts for India and the Colonies.

- WO 165 War of 1939 to 1945: War Diaries: War Office Directorates, 1938 to 1947, 141 files
- Daily records of various branches of War Office directorates functioning during the war years and up to 1947. WO 165-WO 179 are closed for 100 years except to those willing to sign an undertaking not to disclose information of a personal nature.
- WO 169 War of 1939 to 1945: War Diaries: Middle East Forces, 1939 to 1946, 24,928 files
- Day by day records of operations by units on the ground.
- WO 172 War of 1939 to 1945: War Diaries: South-East Asia Command and Allied Land Forces, South-East Asia, 1939 to 1946, 11399 volumes and files
- Includes forces serving in Burma, Ceylon, Malaya and Hong Kong. Most of the material is closed for 100 years.
- WO 173 War of 1939 to 1945: War Diaries: West Africa, 1939 to 1948, 1332 files
- Daily records of events. Reports on operations, intelligence summaries, etc, of commanders of headquarters, formations and units of the British army and West African Forces.
- WO 175 War of 1939 to 1945: War Diaries: British North Africa Forces, 1941 to 1943, 1349 files
- Daily record of events, reports on operations, intelligence summaries, etc, of headquarters, formation and unit commanders of the British element of the allied forces which landed in Algiers in November 1942. See also WO 204.
- WO 176 War of 1939 to 1945: War Diaries: Various Smaller Theatres, 1938 to 1947, 396 files
- Daily records of events, reports on operations, intelligence summaries, etc, of commanders of headquarters, garrisons and units of the British Army overseas in commands other than the main theatres.
- WO 181 Directorate of Military Survey, 1887 to 1947, 315 files
- Consists of the unregistered branch files of the Geographical Section, General Staff. Some files relate to Malaysia, including correspondence with the Sultan of Johore (1928-1929).
- WO 191 War Diaries and Headquarters Records: Peacetime Operations, 1927 to 1948, 87 files
- Headquarters and operational papers of campaigns in Abyssinia (1935-1936), Egypt (1935-1936), and Palestine (1936-1938, 1945-1948).

- WO 193 Directorate of Military Operations: Collation Files, 1934 to 1958, 1004 files
- These files provide information on global military planning, intelligence and operations. See also WO 106.
- WO 195 Scientific Advisory Council: Papers, 1939 to 1968, 16,065 files
- Reports and other circulated papers of the Advisory Council of Scientific Research and Technical Development and the Scientific Advisory Council of the Ministry of Supply and its various committees.
- WO 201 War of 1939 to 1945: Military Headquarters Papers: Middle East Forces, 1936 to 1946, 2863 files and extracts from files
- WO 203 War of 1939 to 1945: Military Headquarters Papers: Far East Forces, 1932 to 1949, 6455 files
- Papers of the Joint Anglo-American Command, known as the South-East Asia Command (SEAC).
- WO 204 War of 1939 to 1945: Military Headquarters Papers: Allied Forces Headquarters, 1941 to 1948, 12,895 files, index cards
- These papers concern allied war operations in the Mediterranean covering campaigns in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. The papers are mainly those of Anglo-American units.
- WO 208 Directorate of Military Intelligence, 1917 to 1968, 5019 files and volumes
- The class consists of records of the directorate as established in 1939, together with some inherited from the former Directorate of Military Operations and Intelligence. The majority of these files are arranged under geographical headings in alphabetical order.
- WO 212 War of 1939 to 1945: Orders of Battle and Organization Tables, 1939 to 1949, 692 files
- The class contains the order of battles and organization tables of all headquarters, formations, and units of the British Army serving at home and overseas during the war period and afterwards. Some files relate to colonial territories. For instance, there are several about Malaya.
- WO 214 Alexander Papers, 1941 to 1945, 71 files
- Official and semi-official correspondence of Earl Alexander of Tunis, Supreme Allied Commander Mediterranean Theatre, 1944 to 1945.

- WO 216 Chief of the (Imperial) General Staff Papers, 1935 to 1964, 968 files
- Papers originating in the office of the Chief of the General Staff dealing with military operations, administration, and policy.
- WO 220 Directorate of Civil Affairs, 1940 to 1949, 685 files, booklets
- Files, reports, and handbooks of the directorate. The directorate was formed in 1943 to co-ordinate resistance in enemy occupied territories. There are files on Malaysia and other territories.
- WO 221 Inter-Departmental Contracts and Procurement Committees and Sub-Committees, 1920 to 1963, 44 files
- The class contains the annual reports of the Contracts Co-ordinating Committee (1923-1939), its minutes and agenda (1920-1960) and those of the General Purposes Sub-Committee (1940-1950).
- WO 230 British Military Administration of African Territories, 1939 to 1951, 325 files
- The administration of Italy's African territories after their occupation by the allies was undertaken by the commander-in-chief, Middle East, who was responsible for Eritrea, Cyrenaica, Tripolitania and the Dodecanese, and by the general officer commanding in chief, East Africa, who was responsible for Somalia, reserved areas of Ethiopia and British Somaliland. From April 1949 the Foreign Office administered the former Italian colonies and from April 1950 Somalia was administered by Italy under UN Trusteeship. See also FO 371; FO 1015; FO 1021.
- WO 236 Erskine Papers, 1936 to 1959, 26 files
- Papers of General Sir George Erskine, relating to operations in North Africa in the Second World War and to subsequent military affairs in Egypt and in Kenya.
- WO 259 Private Office Papers: Secretary of State, 1937 to 1951, 87 files
- Registered and unregistered papers from the private office of the secretary of state for war on a variety of subjects.
- WO 261 Quarterly Historical Reports: Middle East Land Forces, 1946 to 1950, 779 files
- Selected reports of units serving in various parts of the Middle East following the Second World War. The war diaries which these reports replaced in July 1946 are in WO 169.

- WO 266 Quarterly Historical Reports: Gibraltar, 1946 to 1949, 57 files
 Selected headquarters and unit reports, which succeed the war diaries in WO 176.
- WO 268 Quarterly Historical Reports: Far East Land Forces, 1946 to 1950, 801 files
- WO 269 Quarterly Historical Reports: East and West Africa, 1946 to 1950, 239 files
 Selected headquarters and unit reports, succeeding the war diaries in WO 169 and WO 173.
- WO 270 Quarterly Historical Reports: Caribbean, 1946 to 1950, 22 files
 Selected headquarters and unit reports, succeeding the war diaries in WO 176.
- WO 272 Directorate of Supplies and Transport: Papers, 1942 to 1956, 27 files
 Photographs, minutes of meetings, and other papers, concerned mainly with fuel and lubricant supplies.
- WO 276 East Africa Command: Papers 1902 to 1964, 541 files, volumes
 Many of the files concern internal security and the suppression of terrorism. The files also include intelligence reports and policy plans.
- WO 282 Dill Papers, 1936 to 1941, 7 files
 Official and personal correspondence as GOC Palestine (1936-1937), GOC Aldershot Command (1937-1939), with the BEF in France to April 1940, and as vice and then chief of the Imperial General Staff.
- WO 284 Gibraltar Garrison Orders, 1720 to 1961, 180 volumes
 Orders to the military garrison issued from the town's major office, dealing largely with administrative matters.
- WO 286 Ministry of Supply: Branch Registry Files, 1947 to 1971, 70 files
 Files from the Ministry of Supply Branch registry systems covering functions transferred to the War Office in 1959.
- WO 288 Suez Campaign: Headquarters Papers and War Diaries, 1956 to 1957, 154 files

WO 294 HQ West Africa Command and Allied Joint Staff Papers, 1949 to 1956, 45 files

Papers of the Headquarters West Africa Command, formed in 1940 and disbanded in 1956.

WORK CLASSES: RECORDS OF THE SUCCESSIVE WORKS DEPARTMENTS, AND OF THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS BOARDS AND INSPECTORATE

WORK 10 Public Buildings Overseas, 1834 to 1977, 754 files, boxes, etc

Correspondence and papers relating to the acquisition of sites for establishments overseas, erection or alteration to buildings, furnishing and maintenance, and disposal.

CHAPTER 8

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

8.1 THE ROLE AND NATURE OF THE COMMITTEES

Interdepartmental committees were similar in function to Cabinet committees, but they differed in status and there were many more of them. There were two basic types of interdepartmental committee: those formed to deal with matters not clearly the primary responsibility of any one department; and those set up to handle matters which, while primarily the responsibility of the convening department, affected several other departments. The committees were generally financed by the departments that chaired them. In most instances the chair was shared by several departments, as was the cost of the committee. The financing and chairmanship could also depend on the degree of formality of the committee. Formal interdepartmental committees were usually appointed at the request of the Cabinet through the minister. Most of these committees supplied information to a Cabinet committee concerned with the same issue, or carried out its recommendations. Informal committees tended to meet because a minister reached an informal agreement with ministers in other departments. These committees often had no written guidelines.

In theory there was a distinction between interdepartmental committees, co-ordinating committees and departmental committees that invited representatives from other departments to participate. Co-ordinating committees dealt with major issues where there was a need to bring together individuals performing different tasks or functions with a view to harmonizing their work. They tended to have executive functions that interdepartmental and departmental committees were not intended to have. However, in practice there was only a nominal difference between them. Consequently this guide defines interdepartmental committee in its widest possible sense, as those committees below Cabinet level that included more than one government department or institution.

The interdepartmental committee structure offers a useful window into government policy and its implementation. There was a noticeable decrease in the number of standing advisory committees during and after the war and a dramatic growth in the number of more utilitarian and productive technical committees. Despite these changes there was one constant, namely, the inclusion of the Treasury on the great majority of the committees. The Treasury hosted very few interdepartmental committees but its input on nearly all issues was significant. During the period under consideration it had the greatest influence of any single department other than the Colonial Office on the implementation of policy in the colonies.

8.2 INVOLVEMENT IN COLONIAL AFFAIRS

British colonial policy underwent continual revision during the period 1925 to 1957. This was partly in response to events in the colonies themselves and partly in response to the changing international balance of political and economic power.

This period saw the transformation from a policy of *laissez-faire* trusteeship, entailing no financial assistance from the metropolis to the colonies, to one committed to development and welfare planning

depending largely on British government finance. Initially, this change in policy was prompted by social unrest and strikes in the West Indies, which were identified by a series of commissions as resulting from the appalling economic and social conditions - also characteristic of many African colonies - which could only be addressed through financial assistance from the metropolis. Interdepartmental committees such as the Colonial Development Advisory Committee (1929) and the Interdepartmental Committee on the Industrial Development of the Colonial Empire (1934) reflect attempts to promote development planning in the inter-war period. The depression hampered these efforts to a large degree, however.

The impetus to develop the colonies for trading purposes assumed vital strategic importance with the outbreak of the Second World War and the need to obtain crucial supplies of raw materials and foodstuffs from outside Europe. The period from 1939 thus sees a proliferation of interdepartmental committees, established to assist efforts to acquire regular supplies of key raw materials from the colonies. These included the Treasury Inter-Service Committee: Reserves of Cotton (1939), the Informal Interdepartmental Committee on Sisal (1941-1942) and the Empire Raw Material Co-ordination Committee and Clearing House (1942-1943).

In the post-war period, the colonies figured prominently in Britain's plans for economic recovery and reconstruction. The USA had been transformed into the leading economic power in the West during the war. Britain could only hope to compete with the USA by utilizing resources within the colonies on a larger, more intensive scale than ever before. Thus, in the post-war period interdepartmental committees were summoned to promote and monitor medical and agricultural research in the colonies to help facilitate and stimulate rapid economic growth. These included the Interdepartmental Committee on Yellow Fever Control (1941-1945), the Interdepartmental Working Party on Fertilizers (1949) and the Mechanized Production of Jute Committee.

The restrictions on trade and finance which had been imposed during the Second World War continued in a similar vein in the post-war period. The large balance of payments deficit of the sterling zone with the USA led to the establishment of numerous interdepartmental committees to consider ways of correcting the imbalance. The Colonial Dollar Drain Committee (1947) and the Colonial Primary Products Committee (1947) looked at ways in which the empire could service its own economic requirements and limit imports from the USA. Such policies and committees continued functioning into the 1950s by which time the movement toward independence was under way.

8.3 COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

The committees are described at two levels. Section 8.3.1 a list of the relevant committees in chronological order. Section 8.3.2 is a master list in alphabetical order providing details about all the committees identified as having colonial relevance. It indicates, where possible, the departments or bodies concerned (as identified for the files checked), the covering dates where known and the role of the committee. Where it has not been possible to determine exactly when a committee began to meet, an approximate date is given. Where the exact or approximate terminal date of a committee cannot be given a '?' is used to draw readers' attention to this fact.

The committees described in this section represent only a fraction of those that existed in Whitehall between 1925 and 1957. During this period there may have been up to six times as many interdepartmental committees. However, their papers have not been preserved systematically, and in some cases they are found in more general files. The committees covered here have been identified by scanning the lists of records of departments known to have been involved in colonial affairs. Notably the records of the Colonial Office (general, subject and regional classes) were checked, although the country classes were not searched. The records of the Foreign Office political departments (FO 371) were only sampled; and the relevant Treasury classes were searched. A card index of committees, kept at the PRO Kew, was also checked.

The references provided for each committee are thus by no means comprehensive. They are intended to be no more than a starting point for research. In fact in most cases only one or two references are given, whereas there may have been a number of departments involved and their records are likely to contain material on the committees themselves or the issues they covered. Searchers should therefore identify the relevant class lists for these departments and scan for potentially relevant file titles. Where a class includes a number of scattered references, only the class number is given.

8.3.1 Chronological List

1920	Imperial Shipping Committee
1922	Interdepartmental Committee on Eastern Unrest
1923	Committee on Colonial Allowances for Naval Officers Stationed Onshore and Abroad Gibraltar Admiralty Police Committee
1924	Technical Co-ordinating Committee on Foodstuffs
1926	Committee on Anglo-French Condominium in the New Hebrides Committee on Governors' Salaries Classification for Pension Purposes and Passage Allowances
1927	Virus Diseases of Plants Committee
1929	Advisory Committee on Oil and Oilseeds: Sub-Committee on Tung Oil Colonial Development Advisory Committee Interdepartmental Committee on Questions Arising Out of the Report of the Imperial Relations Committee of the Imperial Conference 1926 Interdepartmental Opium Committee
1930	Advisory Committee on British Participation in Overseas Exhibitions and Fairs Interdepartmental Committee on Health Matters Joint West Africa Committee

- 1931 Imperial Institute Interdepartmental Committee
Interdepartmental Committee on Sugar
Interdepartmental Preparatory Committee on the Ottawa Economic Conference
Standing Aden Committee
- 1932 Ottawa Imperial Economic Conference Interdepartmental Preparatory Committee: Empire
Wheat Quota Sub-Committee
Ottawa Imperial Economic Conference Interdepartmental Preparatory Committee: Quota
Sub-Committee
- 1934 Interdepartmental Committee on the Industrial Development of the Colonial Empire
Permanent Consultative Committee on Official Statistics
- 1935 Permanent Consultative Committee on Official Statistics: Sub-Committee on the
Conference of Commonwealth Statisticians at Ottawa
- 1936 Interdepartmental Committee on Freedom of Access to Colonial Raw Materials
- 1937 Interdepartmental Committee on the Industrial Development of the Colonial Empire
Interdepartmental Committee on Trade Policy
International Sugar Conference Interdepartmental Committee
- 1938 Colonial Empire Marketing Board: Exhibitions Sub-Committee
Interdepartmental Committee on Van Zeeland's Report
- 1939 Treasury Inter-Service Committee: Reserves of Cotton
- 1940 Imperial Economic Committee: Finance Sub-Committee
Interdepartmental Committee for Petroleum
Interdepartmental Committee for Welfare of Evacuees from Gibraltar
Interdepartmental Committee on Import Licensing
Interdepartmental Committee on Pre-Entry for Goods to be Shipped to Empire
Destinations
- 1941 Informal Interdepartmental Committee on Sisal
Interdepartmental Committee on Yellow Fever Control
Middle East Defence Committee
Middle East Defence Committee Optional Strength Returns
- 1942 Committee on Overseas Settlement on Demobilization
Empire Raw Material Co-ordination Committee and Clearing House
Interdepartmental Committee on Export Policy
Interdepartmental Committee on Locust Control
Interdepartmental Committee on Post-War Commercial Policy

Interdepartmental Committee on Reparations and Economic Security
 Middle Eastern War Council: Middle East Air Transport Sub-Committee
 Perio Committee
 Working Party for Guaranteed Prices for Colonial Produce

- 1943 Colonial Products Research Council: Committee for Colonial Agricultural, Animal Health and Forestry Research: Soils Sub-Committee
 Colonial Products Research Council: Technical Sub-Committee
 Colonial Social Welfare Advisory Committee: Research and Training Sub-Committee
 Committee on the Training of Nurses for the Colonies
 Interdepartmental Committee on American Opinion and the British Empire
 Interdepartmental Commodity Policy Group
 Malaya Sub-Committee of the London Rubber Committee
- 1944 Far Eastern Economic Committee
 Informal Committee on the Combined Boards
 Interdepartmental Commission of Inquiry on Oriental, Slavonic, East European and African Studies
 Interdepartmental Committee on the International Bank
- 1945 Commodity Policy Committee: Tin
 Currency and Gold Committee
 Interdepartmental Committee on Basic English
 Interdepartmental Committee on the International Cotton Advisory Board
 Joint Logistical Planning Committee
 Morale (Far East) International Progressing Committee
- 1946 East African Medical Survey Sub-Committee
 Haifa Port Committee
 Interdepartmental Committee on Strategic Reserves
 Interdepartmental FAO Panel
 Interdepartmental Working Party on Prices of Colonial Products
 Interdepartmental Working Party on Wheat
 Jewish Illegal Immigration and Palestine Committee
 Rubber Consultative Committee
 South-East Asia Secretariat Co-ordinating Committee
 Tin Consultative Committee and Interdepartmental Committee on Tin
- 1947 Colonial Development Working Party
 Colonial Dollar Drain Committee
 Colonial Primary Products Committee
 Food Policy Working Party
 Joint Standing Committee on Colonial Civil Aviation
 Interdepartmental Wheat Panel (International Wheat Council)

- 1948 Colonial Primary Products Committee: Metals and Minerals Panel
 Empire Publicity Committee
 Overseas References Services Advisory Committee
 Production of Minerals and Metals Working Party on Aluminium
- 1949 Advisory Committee on Colonial Colleges of Arts, Science and Technology
 Foreign Office Committee on the Development of Cyrenaica
 Former Italian Colonies: Working Party to Consider the Transfer of Responsibility for
 Administration from the War Office to the Foreign Office
 Hong Kong Supplies Committee
 Interdepartmental Committee on Colonial People in the United Kingdom
 Interdepartmental Working Party on Fertilizers
 Tin Working Party
- 1950 Mechanized Production of Jute Committee
 Rice Working Party
- 1951 Consultative Committee on the Welfare of Colonial Students
 Defence Advisory Committee on Commonwealth Mineral Resources
 Joint Colonial Office and Commonwealth Relations Office Working Party on
 Constitutional Development of Colonial and Commonwealth Territories
 United Kingdom Working Party on the Commonwealth Development Report
- 1952 Consultative Committee on Oil and Oilseeds: Groundnut Sub-Committee
 Consultative Committee on Oil and Oilseeds: Oil Palm Sub-Committee
 Interdepartmental Committee on the Renewal of the International Wheat Agreement
 Rubber Working Party: Sub-Committee on International Commodity Policy
 United Kingdom/West Indies Working Party on Canada/West Indies Trade
 Volta River Project Preparatory Commission
 Working Party on Dollar Investment in the Sterling Area
- 1954 Overseas Information Services Official Committee
 West African Council for Medical Research: Standing Scientific Committee
- 1956 Middle East Official Committee
- 1967 Working Party on International Co-operation for Economic Development in Africa

8.3.2 Master List

The letters qv are used to direct the reader's attention to other parts of this list.

Advisory Committee on British Participation in Overseas Exhibitions and Fairs, 1930- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Association of British Chambers of Commerce, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, Colonial Office, Department of Overseas Trade, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Dominions Office, Empire Marketing Board, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, National Union of Manufacturers, Trade Union Congress

Like the Exhibitions Sub-Committee of the Colonial Empire Marketing Board (qv) this committee was concerned with the British empire's participation in international exhibitions and fairs. Thus it looked at Colonial representation at the British Empire Trade Exhibition held in Buenos Aires in 1931, the International Colonial Exhibition in Paris in 1931 and the Johannesburg Exhibition in 1936.

References: BT 60/29/3

Advisory Committee on Colonial Colleges of Arts, Science and Technology, 1949

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The committee was concerned with the establishment, financing and general policy and legislation of colleges of arts, science and technology in the colonies. It looked at possibilities of financial assistance from the Colonial Development and Welfare reserves, legislation with regard to the establishment of the Nigeria College of Arts, Science and Technology in 1952, and the overall policy to be adopted for the 'Africanization' of the colleges in West Africa.

References: CO 554/344-353

Advisory Committee on Oil and Oilseeds: Sub-Committee on Tung Oil, 1929-1938

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Paint Research Association, Royal Botanic Gardens

The sub-committee promoted the production and marketing of tung oil, a vital component of paints and varnishes. It was responsible for co-ordinating cultivation trials and attempting to establish long-term cultivation in Kenya, Tanganyika, Burma and India.

References: AY 3/24

Colonial Development Advisory Committee, 1929-1940

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Treasury

This long-standing committee administered and financed projects including railways, roads and general municipal effects under the Colonial Development Fund. The committee was superseded during the Second World War by the Colonial Development and Welfare Advisory Committee.

References: CO 877/13/6; CO 970

Colonial Development Working Party, 1947-1948

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Supply, Treasury (Central Economic Planning Staff)

The committee was set up to examine and ascertain requirements for capital investment in the colonies. It carried out a survey to find out the amount of investment needed in many of the colonies.

References: T 220/26-30; T 229/220

Colonial Dollar Drain Committee, 1947-1948

Departments and Institutions Involved: Bank of England, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Ministry of Fuel and Power, Treasury

In the light of the serious economic situation in the sterling area there was a need to keep dollar expenditure in the colonies as low as possible. Set up under the Treasury, the committee conveyed the position to the colonies and requested periodic reviews of their balances of payments. The Colonial Office and the Bank of England co-ordinated this information. Expenditure on cotton textile imports, largely from Japan and the USA, was a major concern, and the committee considered possibilities of expanding the colonial cotton industry. It analysed other possible anti-inflationary solutions, paying special attention to Malaya, Nigeria, St Vincent and the Gold Coast. It also discussed the European Recovery Programme (ERP) legislation and the establishment of the European Co-operation Administration. Colonial balances of payments were considered in assessing the UK share of ERP aid, and there was a possibility of colonial imports being financed from ERP funds. The committee's work was closely related to that of the Treasury Dollar Drain Committee. After April 1948 the Colonial Office took over responsibility from the Treasury.

References: CO 537/4231-4232; T 236/689-692

Colonial Empire Marketing Board: Exhibitions Sub-Committee, 1938

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Empire Marketing Board, Department of Overseas Trade, HM Eastern African Dependencies Nyasaland Section, HM Eastern African Dependencies Trade and Information Office, London Press Exchange, Malayan Information Office, Malta Government, Sarawak Government

The main purpose of the sub-committee was to discuss colonial representation at various international exhibitions and fairs, including details of how these representations should be made and financed. Thus

details of how the colonies should be represented at the World's Fair in New York City in 1939 were arranged. Other exhibitions discussed included: the British Industries Fair (1939), the New Zealand Centennial Exhibition in Wellington (1940) and the Royal Agricultural Society's show in Windsor (1939).

References: CO 868/4/1-3

Colonial Primary Products Committee, 1947-1948

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Colonial Products Board, Ministry of Food, Treasury

The committee reviewed colonial production commodity by commodity with the aim of improving product distribution and increasing foreign exchange resources. It reviewed and analysed certain commodities in relation to the colonies which exported and consumed them, for example jute or the jute substitutes coir, hemp, sisal and flax. It produced a priority list for potential commodity production in the empire.

References: CO/1002/1-5

Colonial Primary Products Committee: Metals and Minerals Panel, 1948-1949

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Geological Survey, Colonial Office, Imperial Institute, Lord President's Office, Ministry of Fuel and Power, Ministry of Supply

Set up to monitor and promote the mining and supply of metal and mineral ores in the colonies, the committee operated as a central co-ordinating and technical panel to control colonial ore export markets.

References: CO 1002/6-8

Colonial Products Research Council: Committee for Colonial Agricultural, Animal Health and Forestry Research: Soils Sub-Committee, 1943- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture

The sub-committee dealt with technical matters concerning soils science. It examined reports on the maintenance and enhancement of soil fertility under tropical conditions and soil structure in wet areas, conducted trials on fertilizers in the Kenyan highlands and soil research in the West Indies, and inspected irrigation and drainage projects in various regions. A grant from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund was received to establish a pool of soil surveyors (see CO 927/231 for the Working Party on Soil Surveys).

References: CO 927/89/3-5 (1946-1949); CO 927/232 (1953); CO 927/304-308 (1954-1956)

Colonial Products Research Council: Technical Sub-Committee, 1943-c1947

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Forest Products Research Laboratory, Imperial Institute, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Production

The sub-committee was responsible for monitoring and helping to co-ordinate chemical and industrial research on colonial products in Britain and the colonies. Among the major projects monitored was sugar production research by the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad, which involved improving sugar yields. It also looked at research on food yeast, cloves, coconut and logwood products, petroleum, banana fibre, vegetable oil, water power and numerous other products. It received regular research progress reports from research institutes on product experimentation and was responsible for recommending the allocation of research grants.

References: AY 3/188-189

Colonial Social Welfare Advisory Committee: Recruitment and Training Sub-Committee, 1943-1951

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office; Principal Assistant Secretary, Nigeria; Secretary for Social Services, Jamaica

The Colonial Social Welfare Advisory Committee was set up to monitor technical sub-committees concerned with the welfare and training of colonial civil servants. The Recruitment and Training Sub-Committee dealt with education and recruitment. Where recruits did not have social service experience and knowledge of the area to which they were to be posted, the committee attempted to find the most efficient method of providing appropriate training.

References: CO 997/9-11

Committee on Anglo-French Condominium in the New Hebrides, 1926- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Government of Australia, Government of New Zealand

This committee included the secretary of state for dominions affairs and the colonies and the prime ministers of Australia and New Zealand. Convened to assess the situation in the New Hebrides and reformulate policy towards the islands, it recommended partitioning the islands between the French and the British in order to safeguard British interests in the wake of increasing French influence. With the French government's rejection of partition, it was up to the committee to recommend measures to strengthen the position of British settlers in the New Hebrides. It set up a commission to investigate the situation.

References: CO 537/973-977, 981

Committee on Colonial Allowances for Naval Officers Stationed On Shore and Abroad, 1923-1931

Departments and Institutions Involved: Accountant General's Department, Admiralty

The committee assessed the extra allowances that should be paid to officers when on shore at colonial and dominion naval stations, including Hong Kong and Singapore.

References: ADM 116/4228

Committee on Governors' Salaries Classification for Pension Purposes and Passage Allowances, 1926- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Treasury

The committee examined salaries of colonial governors and suggested revisions where necessary.

References: T 164/67/26; T 164/78/5

Committee on Overseas Settlement on Demobilization, 1942-1943

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Air Ministry, Cabinet Office Reconstruction Secretariat, Colonial Office, Department of Overseas Trade, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Labour and National Service, Treasury, War Office

The committee considered the possibility of officially promoting the emigration of suitably qualified demobilized British personnel and their dependents after the war. The dominions and Southern Rhodesia were considered particularly suitable and the committee tried to define appropriate beneficiaries of such a scheme.

References: CAB 117/152

Committee on the Training of Nurses for the Colonies, 1943-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Central Midwives Board, City of London Maternity Hospital, Colonial Office, Grosvenor Hospital for Women, Ministry of Health

This committee was established on the recommendation of the Colonial Advisory Medical Committee (see for example CO 323/1216/14-CO 323/1217/9 and CO 994) which had been concerned by the lack of appropriate training for nurses working in the colonies. It was to recommend improvements in training to meet conditions in the colonies and the criteria for recruitment. Soon after its inception it was divided into Sub-Committee 'A' on the Training of Nurses in the UK and the Dominions and Sub-Committee 'B' on the Training Given in the Colonies to Indigenous Nurses.

References: CO 998/1-6

Commodity Policy Committee: Tin, 1945- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Burma Office, Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, Treasury

The committee was convened to consider two documents on tin policy, and it proposed a policy for the controlled rehabilitation of the Malayan mining industry as a basis for discussing policy with the USA.

References: BT 11/3022

Consultative Committee on Oil and Oilseeds: Groundnut Sub-Committee, 1952- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Gambian Oilseed Marketing Company, Gold Coast Cocoa Marketing Company, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Nigerian Produce Marketing Company, Royal Botanic Gardens

This committee was set up in the wake of the Raymond-Padwick Report which criticized groundnut quality control, particularly in West Africa. It reviewed three main areas requiring improvement in West Africa to ensure better groundnut quality control: cultivation methods, storing methods and facilities and transportation systems. It recommended the establishment of a West African groundnut research station through which it could steer and monitor research.

References: AY 3/27

Consultative Committee on Oil and Oilseeds: Oil Palm Sub-Committee, 1952-1958

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Colonial Products Advisory Bureau, Nigerian Produce Marketing Board

The sub-committee was set up at the request of the West African Research Institute to provide guidance on the marketing, classification and distribution of palm oil and its associated products.

References: AY 3/28-32

Consultative Committee on the Welfare of Colonial Students, 1951-1952

Departments and Institutions Involved: British Council, Colonial Office, Conservative Party, East African Students Federation, Gold Coast Students Union, Labour Party, Liberal Party, Malayan Students Union, University of London, West African Students Union, West Indian Students Union

The secretary of state for the colonies set up this small consultative committee to advise on issues concerning the welfare of colonial students in the UK as a result of student strikes over the difficulty of finding cheap accommodation in London. The committee provided a forum for colonial student representatives to air grievances and make recommendations about problems they faced in Britain.

References: CO 537/6702, 7617

Currency and Gold Committee, 1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Central African Council, Currency Board, Governments of Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Government of Nyasaland, Treasury

This committee was set up to implement proposals outlined in a Southern Rhodesia Treasury Memorandum providing for the investment of up to twenty per cent of the board's assets in loans to the colonial governments.

References: DO 35/1162/R208/28

Defence Advisory Committee on Commonwealth Mineral Resources, 1951- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Governments of Australia, Canada, Ceylon, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, Imperial Institute, Ministry of Materials

This committee was formed to provide details to the Commonwealth Committee on Mineral Resources and Geology about minerals needed for defence, to estimate the demand for such minerals and to determine the prices that might be paid.

References: CO 537/7056

East African Medical Survey Sub-Committee, 1946-1952

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Council for Medical Research, Liverpool School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

The sub-committee was set up by the Colonial Medical Research Committee (CO 913/1-11) to examine medical research needs in East Africa and to formulate research policy. It initiated surveys on disease patterns in East Africa, particularly for leprosy, trypanosomiasis, malaria, schistosomiasis and tuberculosis. It concentrated its efforts on disease control through preventative rather than curative measures and advocated research into sanitation and nutrition.

References: CO 913/12. See also CO 913/13-18

Empire Publicity Committee, 1948- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Central Office of Information, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Education, Scottish Education Board, Treasury

The committee was set up to promote the sale of books from commonwealth countries.

References: FO 953/132

Empire Raw Material Co-ordination Committee and Clearing House, 1942

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office, India Office, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, Miscellaneous Chemicals Control

This committee was set up to review data from its satellite committees in the colonies on domestic consumption of raw materials and the balance available for export to the USA. Zinc, copper, hemp and rubber received special attention. Schedules were drawn up commodity by commodity to increase the flow of raw materials and redirect the surplus more efficiently. This information was passed to the Joint Raw Materials Board which assembled world supply requirements for raw materials in 1941 and 1942.

References: CAB 115/526. See CAB 115/527-528 for minutes and papers of the Empire Clearing House Committee and sub-committees.

Far Eastern Economic Committee, 1944-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Burma Office, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Production, War Office

This sub-committee of the Far Eastern Committee (see entry in Section 2.3) examined economic issues concerning British policy in the Far East. For instance, it prepared a report on commercial policy with China, looked into Britain's commercial interests in Siam and assisted the Far Eastern Committee in formulating policy recommendations.

References: BT 25/33/RG177/40-40/3

Food Policy Working Party, 1947-1948

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Ministry of Food, Treasury

After the establishment of the Ministry of Food there was a need to clarify its responsibilities and those of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The committee drew up new legislation to give the Ministry of Food the power to set up commodity commissions to co-ordinate efficient processing, distribution and sale of foodstuffs throughout the empire.

References: MAF 83/3114

Foreign Office Committee on the Development of Cyrenaica, 1949- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Air Ministry, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, War Office

The committee investigated and advised on the economic development of Cyrenaica following the Second World War.

References: CO 537/5751

Former Italian Colonies: Working Party to Consider the Transfer of Responsibility for Administration from the War Office to the Foreign Office, 1949- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury, War Office

The working party examined the feasibility of continuing War Office responsibility for the administration of the former Italian colonies, Eritrea and Somalia, and looked into their transfer to the Foreign Office. It established sub-committees to examine and make recommendations on aspects of their administration including law and constitutional development.

References: FO 1015/119

Gibraltar Admiralty Police Committee, 1923-1926

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Metropolitan Police

The committee monitored and made recommendations on pay scales for the Gibraltar police force.

References: ADM 116/2248

Haifa Port Committee, 1946- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Colonial Office

The committee monitored the movements of immigrants within the limits of the Port of Haifa in Palestine.

References: ADM 1/19615

Hong Kong Supplies Committee, 1949- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Food

The committee reviewed the supplies position in Hong Kong and considered the possibility of supplies from south China being cut off.

References: CO 537/5519-5520

Imperial Economic Committee: Finance Sub-Committee, c1940- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: representatives for the governments of Australia, Burma, Canada, India, New Zealand, South Africa and the UK and of the colonies and protectorates.

The Imperial Economic Committee was set up following proposals of the 1923 Imperial Economic Conference to deal with policy on economic issues in the dominions. Its jurisdiction gradually widened to include dependent territories. The Finance Sub-Committee handled accounts, administration and contributions.

References: BT 11/2605. See also Commonwealth Economic Committee in Volume I, Chapter 9.

Imperial Institute Interdepartmental Committee, 1931-1934

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office

This committee was established at the request of the Colonial Office to review the benefits of the Imperial Institute. The institute promoted the development of natural resources of the empire and forged links between primary producers in the empire and manufacturers in the UK and elsewhere. The committee recommended that its work should continue but that colonial governments should contribute more to its upkeep as it was they who benefited primarily from its activities. It was also decided that the institute should liaise more closely with the Colonial Office.

References: ED 26/167, 169-170

Imperial Shipping Committee, 1920- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Commonwealth Air Transport Council, High Commission for Canada, High Commission for Rhodesia, High Commission for Union of Southern Africa, Ministry of Shipping, New Zealand Government Offices

The committee was established in 1920 to survey the facilities for maritime transport on routes used or affected by trade with the empire. In January 1948 it became the Commonwealth Shipping Committee (BT 188/11).

References: BT 188

Informal Committee on the Combined Boards, 1944-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Cabinet Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Fuel and Power, Ministry of Production, War Office

Established to review the status of and the need for combined boards in the post-war period, the committee examined each of the major combined boards and their potential roles in peacetime. Most of the boards had been concerned mainly with defence strategies and supplies. Those boards involved

with defence were now moribund, but those which had sought to optimize the flow of supplies from the colonies to the rest of the world were still considered useful.

References: MAF 83/1479

Informal Interdepartmental Committee on Sisal, 1941-1942

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Economic Warfare, Ministry of Supply, Treasury

The committee collected and collated information on the production, availability and price of sisal on the world market and monitored sisal production in British East Africa, particularly in Tanganyika, as well as in Portuguese Africa and Belgian Central Africa. It made recommendations as to how East African sisal should be priced and distributed.

References: CO 852/432/2-3

Interdepartmental Commission of Inquiry on Oriental, Slavonic, East European and African Studies, 1944-1947

Departments and Institutions Involved: British Council, Burma Office, Colonial Office, Department of Overseas Trade, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education, University Grants Committee, War Office

The secretary of state for foreign affairs set up the commission in 1944 to examine existing provisions within British universities for studying the various regions and to recommend ways on improving and extending existing facilities. The impetus for improvement emerged from several factors. During the war, ignorance of language and culture had proved an obstacle to mobilizing and deploying military power, especially in the Far East. There was concern that the lack of understanding would prove an obstacle in the post-war international world of increased communications, not only in the discharge of colonial responsibilities but in the need to compete effectively with the USA in acquiring overseas markets, particularly in the Far East. The commission's report set three broad objectives: the establishment of an academic tradition comparable to those of the major humanities and sciences; the provision of training careers in the regions concerned; and increased public awareness of these regions. The commission's recommendations were acted upon immediately by the post-war government.

References: ED 121/315

Interdepartmental Committee for Petroleum, 1940

Departments and Institutions Involved: Foreign Office, Mines Department, Ministry of Economic Warfare, Ministry of Shipping, War Cabinet

This committee co-ordinated attempts by the Petroleum Department and the Ministry of Economic Warfare to find a solution to the problem of purchasing Iraqi oil at a time when it was expedient to buy in dollars, which were in short supply.

References: T 160/988

Interdepartmental Committee for Welfare of Evacuees from Gibraltar, 1940-1944

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Works and Buildings

The sub-committee recommended and monitored arrangements for evacuees from Gibraltar to Britain in terms of accommodation, children's education and employment.

References: LAB 26/34

Interdepartmental Committee on American Opinion and the British Empire, c1943- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Information, War Office

The committee studied American reactions to British colonial policy. It worked through three sub-committees to gather data as a basis for preparing guidelines for British officials in America.

References: CO 875/19/2-4

Interdepartmental Committee on Basic English, 1945-1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: BBC, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Information, Treasury

The committee attempted to develop methods of teaching and promoting English as an international language with the aim of improving British trade and encouraging efficient administration in the colonies.

References: CO 323/1880/1-2

Interdepartmental Committee on Colonial People in the United Kingdom, 1949-1953

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Home Office, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Transport, National Assistance Board

The committee looked into the accommodation, employment, welfare and repatriation of colonial people in the UK other than those from Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus. It reflected the growing concern

about the high level of unemployment among colonial migrants in the UK, particularly those from the West Indies and West Africa in the light of the labour shortage in the UK at the time. It analysed a Home Office examination of expenditure on 'aliens' since 1919 and considered the criteria for repatriation.

References: CO 859/207/7-8; CO 876/231-233; CO 1028/24

Interdepartmental Committee on Eastern Unrest, 1922- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Home Office, India Office, War Office

The committee was formed to examine evidence about the activities of groups known to oppose the interests of the British Empire: Turkish, Egyptian and Indian nationalists; Pan-Islamic movements in Anatolia and elsewhere; the CUP Organization; and Indian revolutionaries. The committee was initially only required to submit a report on the level of organization and threat posed by these groups, but after 1926 it advised on government policy towards them.

References: CO 537/835, 838

Interdepartmental Committee on Export Policy, 1942- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Ministry of Food

The committee was set up to carry out an intensive inquiry into exports required in the British war effort.

References: MAF 83/462

Interdepartmental Committee on Freedom of Access to Colonial Raw Materials, c1936- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Treasury

The committee considered whether restrictions on foreign powers trading with the British colonies for raw materials should be lifted given the scarcity of natural resources which Sir Samuel Hoare referred to in his statement to the League of Nations in September 1935. It concluded that there was no natural scarcity of raw materials and that foreign nationals were already free to obtain raw materials in the empire.

References: DO 35/204/3

Interdepartmental Committee on Health Matters, 1930- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Foreign Office, Treasury

The committee co-ordinated information on health matters from various government departments for use by UK delegates to international conferences.

References: FO 371/14940

Interdepartmental Committee on Import Licensing, 1940- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Bank of England, Board of Customs and Excise, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Import Licensing Department of the Board of Trade, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Economic Warfare, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of Transport

After the outbreak of war it was necessary to reduce substantially the level of imports into the UK. The committee was established to evaluate which imports could be reduced without endangering the war effort and to construct a wartime licensing policy. It revoked the free admission of goods from the sterling area.

References: CO 852/332/5-7

Interdepartmental Committee on Locust Control, 1942-1952

Departments and Institutions Involved: Anti-Locust Research Centre, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Natural History Museum, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sudan Government

The committee co-ordinated the efforts of the Anti-Locust Research Centre and various British departments and agencies concerned with locust control. It monitored locust breeding, particularly in East Africa, India, Pakistan, Egypt and the Middle East, and fostered research on insecticides in co-operation with foreign governments.

References: CO 852/399/1-2; CO 852/400/3, 5; CO 852/544/3-6; CO 852/545/4; CO 927/146/8-9

Interdepartmental Committee on Post-War Commercial Policy, 1942-1943

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Department of Overseas Trade, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

In 1941 the government accepted various trade obligations under the Mutual Aid Agreement. The committee was set up to review the obligations and to propose a post-war commercial policy to eliminate discriminatory treatment in international commerce. Trade policy in the colonies was considered. The committee proposed that the best way to eliminate trade barriers was to end all import restrictions on an international level.

References: BT 11/1822, 2025. See also BT 11/2373

Interdepartmental Committee on Pre-Entry for Goods to be Shipped to Empire Destinations, 1940

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Customs and Excise, Board of Trade, Export Licensing Department, Ministry of Shipping, Treasury

The committee was set up to revise the pre-entry system for goods to empire destinations.

References: T 161/1042/S46531/1-2

Interdepartmental Committee on Questions Arising Out of the Report of the Imperial Relations Committee of the Imperial Conference 1926, c1929- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Home Office, India Office, Lord Chancellor's Department, Parliamentary Counsel, Scottish Office, Treasury

This committee discussed the parliamentary status in the dominions in relation to the monarch's power of assent and authorization throughout the empire. It produced a report outlining the relationship between the monarch and the dominions.

References: PREM 1/68

Interdepartmental Committee on Reparations and Economic Security, 1942-c1943

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Foreign Office, Paymaster General, Treasury, War Cabinet

Anticipating Germany's defeat, this committee was set up to examine reparations and other related economic questions which would affect Germany's ability to resort to aggression in the future. Its work had limited relevance to the dependent territories, but it did examine German exports to Asia, including Hong Kong and Malaya; German treatment of British property, including property in dependent territories, Egypt, Sudan and Iraq; and the fact that sales of raw materials from the dependent territories to Russia might counter-balance the loss caused by Russia buying machine tools from Germany instead of the UK.

References: T 160/1250/F17793/09/1-2

Interdepartmental Committee on Strategic Reserves, c1946- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Ministry of Aircraft Production, Ministry of Supply

After the Second World War it was necessary to stockpile key raw materials for strategic purposes. The committee identified which materials should be targeted and in what quantities, and communicated its

recommendations to the relevant departments. Natural rubber from the South-East Asia territories was one of the main targets.

References: CO 537/1415, 3093

Interdepartmental Committee on Sugar, 1931-1937

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Customs and Excise, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Treasury

The committee was established to suggest methods of attaining international agreement on sugar policy. It advised the government on methods of preventing undue lowering of the sugar prices in view of the existing stockpiles and the expiration of the Chadbourne Agreement. In considering the need to reconcile the conflicting interests of the home market in sugar beets and the colonial market in sugar cane, it concluded that a restriction of the home market would maintain an uneconomical sugar industry at the taxpayers' expense. It recommended that the solution was to achieve a rise in world prices through an international agreement making the industry self-sufficient.

References: T 160/451/P13292/1-5; T 160/568/F13292/O2/1-6; T 160/569/F13292/O2/7-12; T 160/571/F13292/O16/1-3. See also the description of the International Sugar Council in Section 9.2.2.

Interdepartmental Committee on the Industrial Development of the Colonial Empire, 1934

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Department of Overseas Trade, Dominions Office

The committee discussed the desirability of encouraging competitive industrial enterprises in the colonial empire and observed that the only effective colonial competition in the UK was in rubber goods. It proposed three possible solutions: protective tariffs in the UK for colonial goods, government investment and guaranteed interest on private capital investment and special remission of taxes.

Reference: BT 60/41/6; T 160/763/F14811/1-2. See also next entry

Interdepartmental Committee on the Industrial Development of the Colonial Empire, 1937

Departments and Institutions Involved: Bank of England, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, India Office

The committee considered the extent to which industrial development should be promoted in the territories. A previous committee with a similar brief had met in 1934 (see previous entry), but its conclusions were regarded as too general. The 1937 committee examined the various regions of the empire in detail and tailored its recommendations to the circumstances in the individual territories.

References: CO 852/105/7

Interdepartmental Committee on the International Bank, c1944- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Food, War Cabinet

The committee met to consider the American proposal for an International Bank. As a result of pressure from Dominions and Colonial Office representatives on the committee, the UK recommended substantial alterations to the scheme and suggested that the bank would best be used for recovery projects, such as restoring roads and electricity.

References: T 247/21 (Keynes Papers)

Interdepartmental Committee on the International Cotton Advisory Board, 1945- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, Treasury, War Office

The committee met to consider whether Britain should be represented at a meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee, where the possibility of convening an international cotton conference was to be discussed.

References: T 246 (T 246/118, International Cotton Advisory Committee). See also the description of the International Cotton Advisory Committee in Section 9.2.2.

Interdepartmental Committee on the Renewal of the International Wheat Agreement, 1952-1954

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Food, Treasury

With the International Wheat Agreement of 1949 due to expire in July 1953, the committee was set up to look at the possibility of renewing it. This would mean that producers and consumers would continue to be protected from price fluctuations at a time of rising agricultural prices. The committee concluded that the International Wheat Committee should make a further examination of pricing policy.

References: MAF 84/867-868; T 236/3773-3777

Interdepartmental Committee on Trade Policy, 1937

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Economic Advisory Council, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Treasury

The committee was set up to look into Britain's trade practices in the light of British foreign policy. It considered, among other things, the modification of imperial preferences, the reduction or abolition of

tariffs and the abolition of colonial quotas on Japanese textiles. The committee also considered the possibility of extending the 'open door' policy which would ensure more commercial access to the colonies by non-colonial powers. It was felt that such a gesture by Britain would ease international tension.

References: MAF 40/234; T 177/36; T 188/175-176; T 160/762/F14735/03/1-4; T 160/770/F15583

Interdepartmental Committee on Van Zeeland's Report, 1938- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Treasury

References: T 160/762/F14735/O3/1-4

Interdepartmental Committee on Yellow Fever Control, 1941-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Air Ministry, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Health, Rhodesia House, South Africa House, War Office, Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research

Until 1940 the Office International d'Hygiene Publique in Paris co-ordinated yellow fever control along communication routes. As the war progressed it became difficult for this body to function and as new routes were opened there were more outbreaks of yellow fever, for instance in the Sudan in 1940. The interdepartmental committee was therefore set up to co-ordinate action by the UK departments concerned in the control of yellow fever.

References: CO 859/64/7-9; CO 859/65/1; CO 859/108/5-7

Interdepartmental Commodity Policy Group, 1943- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Aircraft Production, Ministry of Economic Warfare, Ministry of Supply, Treasury, War Cabinet

The group was established to discuss long-term policy objectives relating to pricing, stockpiling, licensing and trade agreements on commodities, including wheat, sugar and rubber. Its recommendations formed the basis of the British position in international treaty negotiations concerning commodity policy.

References: CO 852/659B/1

Interdepartmental FAO Panel, 1946- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Bank of England, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Scottish Office, Treasury

The informal committee looked at the proposed relationship between the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations, and discussed the FAO's preparations to establish an office in Europe. It proposed that matters relating to the FAO should be handled by the Ministry of Food, which would liaise with the Foreign and Colonial Offices.

References: MAF 83/3075. See also United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Section 9.2.2.

Interdepartmental Opium Committee, c1929-c1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Burma Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Home Office, League of Nations

The committee looked at means of controlling the production and circulation of dangerous drugs within the empire. It drew up tables of seizures to monitor the circulation of illicit drugs and tried to get the League of Nations to take responsibility for supervizing their control. It was particularly concerned with opium policy in Burma and was actively concerned with policies in Hong Kong, Malaya and China.

References: CO 323/1885/6-7; CO 323/1219/2/10591; CO 323/1267/9/30721; CO 323/1376/13718; CO 323/1573/63718; BT 25/9, RG 28/1

Interdepartmental Preparatory Committee on the Ottawa Economic Conference, 1931

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Cabinet, Colonial Office, Department of Overseas Trade, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Imperial Shipping Committee, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Treasury

Appointed by the Cabinet Committee on the Proposed Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa, this committee carried out detailed investigations in preparation for the conference and referred to the Cabinet committee for guidance on policy questions. It considered the advantages the UK could hope to gain and the trading terms the UK delegation would propose. It also examined the terms of trade for various commodities such as tobacco, which was grown in a number of territories, including Nyasaland and Southern Rhodesia.

References: MAF 40/20-22

Interdepartmental Wheat Panel (International Wheat Council), 1947

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Food, Treasury

International negotiations on a wheat agreement broke down in April 1947, and the panel was set up to re-examine the issues involved. It was suggested that discussions with Australia and Canada should be opened as soon as possible in the hope of setting a standard floor price extending the agreement until

1952. Wheat markets had grown significantly within the empire since the failure of the first wheat agreement in 1933, and the importance of successful negotiations had become more critical.

References: MAF 84/817-819. See also Interdepartmental Committee on the Renewal of International Wheat Agreement

Interdepartmental Working Party on Fertilizers, 1949- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Central Economic Planning Staff, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Supply

The working party collected and considered statistics about the production and allocation of fertilizers in Britain and the empire. The importance of applying fertilizers, particularly in those colonies where intensive farming methods and cashcropping were widespread, was seen as fundamental for maintaining crop yields. The working party therefore advised the departments concerned on such questions as the impact of cuts in subsidies on fertilizer purchases and ultimately on crop yields.

References: CO 852/1097/4

Interdepartmental Working Party on Prices of Colonial Products, 1946- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, India Office, Ministry of Food, Treasury

The working party was set up to promote long-term stability in the prices of colonial primary products, and to create a permanent marketing structure.

References: CO 852/659A/10-12

Interdepartmental Working Party on Wheat, 1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Dominions Office, India Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Food, Treasury

The first multilateral International Wheat Agreement was concluded in 1933, but broke down after less than a year. Subsequent attempts at agreements failed due to drought and war. A draft international wheat agreement was drawn up in 1946 to deal with problems related to international wheat export prices and their probable repercussions on the future of international trade in wheat. The committee studied and proposed revisions in the draft agreement, giving particular attention to the proposed destruction of the free functioning UK and colonial market in wheat and the consequent loss of invisible exports.

References: MAF 83/1665

International Sugar Conference Interdepartmental Committee, 1937- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Customs and Excise, Board of Trade, Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sugar Commission, Treasury

The committee was formed to initiate and organize an international conference on sugar which took place in July 1937. The low world price of sugar had made sugar production unprofitable, and the conference was intended to improve conditions through the introduction of an international agreement on marketing and production. There was interest in reviving the committee in 1938, presumably to deal with sugar on a long-term basis, but the outbreak of the Second World War removed the need for a Whitehall liaising committee as commodity policy then came under the War Cabinet.

References: CO 852/81/10; CO 852/82/3-5; CO 852/206/4; MAF 40/121-124; T 160; T 188/181-182

Jewish Illegal Immigration and Palestine Committee, 1946- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Colonial Office, War Office

This committee attempted to administer control over the organized illegal immigration of Jews into Palestine. Counter-measures and deterrents were discussed.

References: AIR 20/4963

Joint Colonial Office and Commonwealth Relations Office Working Party on Constitutional Development of Colonial and Commonwealth Territories, 1951

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee looked at the constitutional development of the colonies and dominions, especially in relation to the Gold Coast, which was about to receive dominion status. The South African government objected on racial grounds. The committee sought to devise a new form of relationship between the UK and the colonial territories which would meet the legitimate aspirations of colonial people but help prevent the issue of commonwealth membership becoming problematic.

References: DO 121/125

Joint Logistical Planning Committee, 1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Allied Land Forces South-East Asia, Allied Command South-East Asia, United States Forces

The committee provided a forum for co-ordination between the departments and the military services on logistical matters. It liaised closely with the Joint Planning Staff. Its primary concern was with South-East Asia, especially Singapore and Malaya. In addition to considering the development of

operational bases there, it reviewed the need to obtain natural rubber from Malaya before the anticipated shortages of 1946. It also reviewed operations in the Cocos Islands and the administration of Hong Kong.

References: AIR 23/3190-3214

Joint Standing Committee on Colonial Civil Aviation, 1947- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Civil Aviation

The committee reviewed the question of holding a second colonial civil aviation conference in 1949 and considered how best to implement the recommendations of the first conference of April 1947. It also discussed the development of aviation services throughout the colonies.

References: CO 937/136/2-6; CO 937/137/1-5

Joint West Africa Committee, c1930- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, London Chamber of Commerce

This committee looked at commercial issues specific to British West Africa, including licencing, cocoa standards and transport.

References: CO 554/76/2; CO 554/80/7; CO 554/80/8; CO 554/110/8

Malaya Sub-Committee of the London Rubber Committee, 1943

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Supply, Netherlands Ministry for the Colonies, United States Embassy, War Office

The sub-committee looked at general rubber production in Malaya, examining average yields to estimate potential outputs. It also made plans for the resumption of rubber exports after the liberation of the region. A large part of the sub-committee's work was to consider the size, structure and functions of the Malayan rubber unit, and to employ suitable personnel.

References: BT 64/3686

Mechanized Production of Jute Committee, 1950- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: British Jute Trade Research Association, Board of Trade, Colonial Development Corporation, Colonial Office, Colonial Products Advisory Bureau, National Institute of Agricultural Engineering

The committee monitored and helped co-ordinate research on mechanization in jute producing colonies in East and West Africa, the Far East, the West Indies and the Western Pacific.

References: CO 537/7052

Middle East Defence Committee, 1941- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Air Ministry, Ministry of Defence, Royal Air Force, War Office

The committee monitored the number of planes lost on missions in the Middle East. Information was circulated by secret cypher telegram to the unnamed committee members.

References: AIR 8/530

Middle East Official Committee, 1956- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Foreign Office, Ministry of Fuel and Power, Treasury

In 1955 there was a need either to revive the Cabinet Middle East (Official) Committee (see Section 2.3) or to establish a new one to review the situation in the Middle East. The latter course was chosen and the new committee was set up to review political and economic questions requiring interdepartmental consultation.

References: CAB 134/1297-1299; CAB 134/2338-2339; T 236/4153

Middle Eastern War Council: Middle East Air Transport Sub-Committee, 1942- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: British Embassy, British Overseas Airways Corporation, Department of Civil Aviation

This committee reviewed the problems of air transport in the Middle East. It liaised with and co-ordinated the work of the RAF and the BOAC in an endeavour to build a service that could efficiently link the Middle East with North Africa and the British Isles.

References: AIR 23/1379

Morale (Far East) Interdepartmental Progressing Committee, 1945-1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Air Ministry, India Office, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, War Office

This committee co-ordinated proposals to maintain the morale of the forces serving in India, South-East Asia and the Far East.

References: WO 32/11741

Ottawa Imperial Economic Conference Interdepartmental Preparatory Committee: Empire Wheat Quota Sub-Committee, 1932- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Customs and Excise, Board of Trade, Dominions Office, India Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Treasury

The preparatory committee established sub-committees to examine methods of implementing the proposals and agreements made at the Ottawa Imperial Conference in 1932. This sub-committee drafted an outline of an Empire Wheat Quota, which suggested that millers and flour importers should be obliged to purchase quotas of wheat produced in the empire.

References: T 161/543/537470

Ottawa Imperial Economic Conference Interdepartmental Preparatory Committee: Quota Sub-Committee, 1932

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Customs and Excise, Board of Trade, Economic Advisory Council, Empire Marketing Board, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

This sub-committee examined the general principles and effects of quotas as a means of limiting foreign imports and assisting colonial producers. It concluded that the only viable quota system was a long-term plan giving the quota authorities flexibility to act according to market pressures.

References: T 161/543/547470

Overseas Information Services Official Committee, 1954-1956

Departments and Institutions Involved: BBC, Board of Trade, Central Office of Information, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office

The committee, which worked through interdepartmental panels, was mainly concerned with the image of Britain and its colonies overseas. For instance, a panel set up to consider propaganda in Latin America reported that BBC reports on Mau Mau killings in Kenya were bad publicity. There were also panels investigating information services in the USA and in South-East Asia. The committee reviewed the Drogheda report on overseas information services.

References: CO 1027/71-72 (mainly reports from the panels and minutes of their meetings). See also Section 2.3: Committee on the Drogheda Report on the Overseas Information Services; Overseas Information Services (Ministerial) Committee; Overseas Information Services (Official) Committee; Committee of Inquiry into Overseas Information Services; Official Committee on Overseas Information Services.

Overseas References Services Advisory Committee, 1948-1952

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Central Office of Information, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office

The committee reviewed the operations of the Central Office of Information (COI) and made policy recommendations. The work of the COI included collecting, collating and analysing data on the colonies.

References: INF 12/326

Perio Committee, 1942-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Colonial Office, Ministry of Food, War Office

This committee was established to solve food difficulties in the colonies caused by wartime shortages. It surveyed food production and supply in the colonies and made proposals concerning requisitioning acreage for planting, employing labour and building up of government owned reserve stocks. It was hoped that together these would boost colonial supplies.

References: MAF 83/582, 1183

Permanent Consultative Committee on Official Statistics, c1934- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Air Ministry, Board of Education, Board of Inland Revenue, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Medical Research Council, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Transport, Scottish Office, Treasury, War Office

The committee was not primarily concerned with colonial affairs, but in the early 1930s it looked at the standardization of units of statistics collected throughout the empire.

References: MAF 40/18

Permanent Consultative Committee on Official Statistics: Sub-Committee on the Conference of Commonwealth Statisticians at Ottawa, 1935

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Transport

This committee provided a forum for co-ordination and co-operation between UK departments that could potentially contribute data to a memorandum to be used by the delegates to the Ottawa Conference. It met only twice.

References: MAF 40/18

Rice Working Party, 1950- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Food, Treasury

The working party was formed to examine the extent to which rice production in the colonies could be increased to help meet the deficit in world supplies in 1950. It investigated the possibility of improving rice yields and expanding rice production on marginal land.

References: CO 537/6080

Rubber Consultative Committee, 1946- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Bank of England, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Federation of the British Rubber and Allied Manufacturers Associations London Rubber Secretariat, Foreign Office, Raw Materials Department, Rubber Growers Association, Rubber Study Group, Rubber Trade Association of London, Treasury

The committee was formed as a result of recommendations by the Rubber Study Group that there should be a regular forum for communication between representatives of rubber producers, distributors, manufacturers, users and interested government departments. The committee met to discuss the supply, marketing and use of rubber. It was particularly concerned with maintaining the vast American market for natural rubber from Malaya and Ceylon against the USA's drive to meet its own requirements through synthetic rubber production. This culminated in the International Agreement on Rubber in 1953.

References: BT 258/64-69; CO 537/5567

Rubber Working Party: Sub-Committee on International Commodity Policy, 1952

Departments and Institutions Involved: Bank of England, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Materials, Treasury

The committee considered the practicality of measures proposed by the working party of the Rubber Study Group to prevent surpluses or shortages of rubber. The recent fluctuations in Malayan rubber prices were cited as a cause for concern.

References: CO 537/7724. See also the International Rubber Study Group in Section 9.2.2.

South-East Asia Secretariat Co-ordinating Committee, 1946- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: War Office

This committee co-ordinated the 18 committees in which the supreme allied commander or his staff and the South-East Asia Secretariat were involved.

References: WO 203/6380

Standing Aden Committee, c1931- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Air Ministry, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Treasury

This committee was established to monitor and control growing unrest in Aden. The intelligence services were also utilized in the suppression of the Red Sea slave trade.

References: CO 935/3

Technical Co-ordinating Committee on Foodstuffs, 1924-1939

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Air Ministry, India Office, Ministry of Pensions, War Office

This committee was set up to co-ordinate trade and stockpiling of commodities used by the three armed services. Most of the products required were produced within the colonies.

References: T 161/543/S37470

Tin Consultative Committee and Interdepartmental Committee on Tin, c1946- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Consolidated Tin Smelters Ltd, Consumers Sub-Committee, Foreign Office, FMS Chamber of Mines, London Metal Exchange, Malayan Chamber of Mines, Nigeria Chamber of Mines, Ministry of Supply, Straits Trading Company Ltd

The committee was responsible for gathering and analysing data relating to world production and consumption of tin as a basis for formulating British and colonial tin policy.

References: CO 852/956/1; CO 852/1179/2

Tin Working Party, 1949- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Supply

This committee looked at problems regarding Malayan tin prices. The Malayan delegates to the Tin Study Group had expressed concern that the price of tin would fall sharply without a guarantee from the British government that it would buy up tin reserves surplus to USA tin requirements. Originally it was proposed that there be a gradual scaling down of prices and a decrease in production, but there were obstacles to this proposal. Finally, the USA offered to buy up surplus Malayan tin and the immediate crisis ended.

References: CO 537/4520

Treasury Inter-Service Committee: Reserves of Cotton, 1939- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Supply, Treasury

The committee worked closely with the Joint Committee of Cotton Trade Organizations. It dealt with questions relating to cotton reserves including imports and storage, service and general requirements for long, middle and short staple cotton. Much of the long staple cotton was obtained from the Sudan. One of the committee's tasks was to obtain permission from the Treasury and Cabinet to go ahead with procurement plans. It also examined the agreement made with the USA by which cotton was to be supplied to the UK in exchange for rubber. This involved the South-East Asian markets.

References: SUPP 14/468-469

United Kingdom/West Indies Working Party on Canada/West Indies Trade, 1952- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Development and Welfare Organization, Government representatives of Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Trinidad, Windward Islands, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Transport, Treasury

With the limitations on dollar allocations to the West Indian colonies there was a concern that the important preferential market for West Indian sugar exports to Canada would be adversely affected. The working party reviewed ways of maintaining favourable Canadian-West Indian trading conditions and tried to get Canada's assurance that it would not seek alternative sources of supply, such as Cuba.

References: CO 1031/1010-1015

United Kingdom Working Party on the Commonwealth Development Report, 1951-1953

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Cabinet Office (Economic Section), Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Supply, Treasury

This committee was set up to look at the report of the Organization for Commonwealth Development and to implement some or all of its suggestions. The report suggested ways of identifying areas in which loans and investment would be of optimum value in the commonwealth.

References: T 229/572-574

Virus Diseases of Plants Committee, 1927-1930

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Agriculture Scotland, Imperial Bureau of Entomology, Imperial Bureau of Mycology, Ministry of Agriculture Northern Ireland

This committee's main objective was to secure co-operation on research into virus diseases of plants throughout the empire. It was hoped that a chain of research stations could be set up to exchange information on viral research on plants.

References: MAF 33/639

Volta River Project Preparatory Commission, 1952- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Crown Agents, Ministry of Works

The committee assessed the contributions to be made by the British government and British business concerns in the construction of the Volta Dam and the establishment of the Volta River Authority in Ghana.

References: BT 258/104-116, 120-122, 130, 290

West African Council for Medical Research: Standing Scientific Committee, 1954- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Medical Office of the Gold Coast, Medical Services Sierra Leone

This was a regional satellite of the Colonial Medical Research Committee (see Volume I, Chapter 9). It considered how to improve and administer medical treatment in the West African colonies.

References: CO 913/6

Working Party for Guaranteed Prices for Colonial Produce, 1942- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, India Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Food, Treasury

The working party was established to foster price stability throughout the colonies. It expressed hopes that it would not have to resort to subsidies, bulk purchasing and state trading and that solutions could be found that did not interfere with the colonies' economic autonomy. The committee also addressed the need to promote long-term stability in prices by entering into medium term contracts with governments, organizations and individual suppliers.

References: MAF 83/1647

Working Party on Dollar Investment in the Sterling Area, 1952- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Bank of England, Board of Trade, Cabinet Office (Economic Section), Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

Investment in the colonies was not always subject to taxation, and American dollar investment began to rise to worrying proportions. The committee was set up to analyse in which colonies, where there were advantageous conditions for investors and appropriate methods of control.

References: T 229/575-576

Working Party on International Co-operation for Economic Development in Africa, 1957- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

This working party was established to assess whether new inter-governmental co-operation was needed to facilitate economic development in Africa and, if so, what form the co-operation should take. The committee considered establishing machinery on 'Colombo Plan' lines to provide capital injections and expertise in schemes towards economic development in Africa with the long-term objectives of countering Soviet influence, providing a stabilizing force and creating an outlet for German participation in economic development in Africa.

References: FO 371/125327

CHAPTER 9

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

9.1 ROLE OF ORGANIZATIONS IN COLONIAL/IMPERIAL AFFAIRS

During the period 1925 to 1957, particularly in the post-war period, there was a considerable growth in the number of international organizations which became involved in colonial affairs. In the inter-war years a number of organizations were established under the League of Nations and some of these, such as the International Labour Organization, later became specialized agencies of the United Nations. Most of the relevant organizations during this period tended to be concerned either with research or with the administration of international commodity agreements.

The Second World War saw the emergence of the USA as a major power. Its growing influence on British policy can be seen in the passage of the Lend Lease Act and the network of supply organizations set up between the two governments during the war to mobilize the colonies' resources. The reconstruction of Europe began with the implementation of the European Recovery Programme which forged strong links between the European powers and the USA.

The nature of these organizations' involvement in colonial affairs is analysed in Section 9.2.

9.2 DESCRIPTIONS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS

The organizations described here involved more than one independent state and had some relevance to Britain's dependent territories. They were identified by scanning the lists of departments known to have had an involvement in colonial affairs. However, Foreign Office Political Department records (FO 371) were only sampled. A more thorough search was carried out on the records of the Colonial Office general, subject and geographical (regional classes) departments. The Colonial Office country classes were not searched. The coverage is thus by no means exhaustive. The intention is to point researchers to organizations for which there are known to be records and to the relevant classes. Readers whose interests include economic matters should refer to CO 852, Colonial Office Economic Original Correspondence.

The organizations are described at two levels. Section 9.2.1 provides a list of the relevant committees in chronological order of their date of establishment. Section 9.2.2 is a master list in alphabetical order which provides details about all the organizations identified as having colonial relevance. It indicates, where possible, departments or bodies concerned, as identified from the files checked, the covering dates and the role of the organization. Where it has not been possible to determine exactly when an organization was established, the earliest date at which it was known to exist is given. The date when an organization ceased to exist is often unknown. In this case a '?' is used to draw the reader's attention to this fact. If the organization still exists the closing date is simply left open.

Piece numbers have been given where a file has proven to be particularly relevant or where only one or two pieces have been identified in a large class. They are always given for the Colonial Office General Department records because the class list does not give titles and the files would be difficult to find.

File titles or information about the content of the file are provided in brackets when they seem particularly useful.

The references provided in this list are only intended to provide a starting point for research. Readers should check the references in the appropriate class list, which may reveal other relevant material. They should also identify the relevant class lists for other departments involved with the organization and scan them for relevant material. In some cases, the list of government departments does not necessarily imply direct involvement in a particular body, but an interest in that body's affairs. For most international organizations it is worth checking the index to FO 371 in the appropriate year. It is also worth referring to the description in Section 2.3 of this guide of the Cabinet Steering Committee on International Organizations, which discusses many of the bodies listed.

The following files contain lists and brief summaries of the work of many international organizations and may prove helpful:

CO 936/ United Nations Organization: relations with non-governmental international organizations
20/6-7 under Article 71 of the charter

CO 936/ United Nations Organization: specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations
55/5

FO 371/ United Nations Economic: general
72883

9.2.1 Chronological List

1863	International Red Cross
1865	International Telecommunications Union
1875	Universal Postal Union
1894	International Colonial Institute
1900	International Railway Congress Association
1902	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
1903	International Office of Public Health
1905	International Institute of Agriculture at Rome
1909	International Association of Road Congresses

- 1919 International Commission for the Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea
 International Labour Organization (ILO)
 International Scientific Association of Agriculture of Tropical Countries
- 1920 League of Nations
 Pacific Science Association
- 1922 International Central Office for the Control of Liquor Traffic in Africa
- 1924 International Office of Epizootics
 International Wine Office
- 1926 International African Institute
- 1927 International Relief Union
- 1928 International Office for the Protection of Nature
- 1931 International Agricultural Association for the Eastern Tropics (proposed)
 International Tin Committee
- 1932 International Council for Tin Research and Development
- 1933 International Tea Committee
- 1934 International Rubber Regulations Committee (IRRC)
- 1937 International Sugar Council
- 1938 Desert Locust Control International Organization (proposed)
 Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees
- 1939 International Cotton Advisory Committee
- 1940 British Supply Council
 Eastern Group Supply Council
- 1941 Allied Supplies Executive
 British Colonies Supply Mission (BCSM)
 Middle East Supply Centre (MESC)
 Official Committee on Post-War External Economic Problems and Anglo-American
 Co-operation
- 1942 Allied African Economic Affairs Committee
 Anglo-American Caribbean Commission

Anglo-American Supply Council for West Africa (proposed)
 Anglo-American Supply Organization
 Combined Food Board (sometimes known as the Allied Food Board)
 Combined Production and Resources Board
 Combined Raw Materials Board
 Combined Shipping Adjustment Boards, London and Washington
 Commonwealth Supply Council (CSC)
 Commonwealth Supply Council: Railway Equipment Sub-Committee
 International Clearing Union (proposed)
 International Commercial Union (proposed)
 International Wheat Council
 West Africa Supplies Committee
 World Trade Alliance Association

- 1943 African Dehydration Mission
 International Rubber Committee
 London Food Council
 London Rubber Committee
 London Rubber Committee: Malaya Sub-Committee
 United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA)
- 1944 Anglo-American (Army) Relations Committee
 Anglo-American-Egyptian Agricultural Machinery Advisory Committee (also known as
 Joint Agricultural Machinery Board)
 International Rubber Study Group
- 1945 Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry into the Jewish Problem in Palestine
 Far Eastern Commission
 International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) (World Bank)
 International Monetary Fund (IMF)
 London Food Council: Sugar Committee
 Pan-African Congress
 United Nations Organization (UN)
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic and Employment
 Commission
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Sub-Commission on Discrimination and
 Protection of Minorities
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Sub-Commission on Economic
 Development
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Transport and Communication
 Commission
 United Nations: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
 United Nations: International Court of Justice
 United Nations: Trusteeship Council

World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)

1946

Caribbean Commission
 International Emergency Food Council
 International Whaling Commission
 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Human Rights
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Narcotic Drugs
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Status of Women
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Population Commission
 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
 World Food Board (proposed)

1947

European Customs Union (proposed)
 General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
 International Refugee Organization (IRO)
 International Tin Study Group
 International Trade Organization (ITO) (proposed)
 International Wool Study Group
 South-East Asia League
 South Pacific Commission
 United Nations: Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Latin America

1948

Anglo-Egyptian Joint Committee
 Brussels Treaty of Western Union
 Commonwealth Economic Information Committee (proposed)
 Economic Co-operation Administration (ECA)
 European Recovery Programme (ERP)
 Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council
 International Union for the Protection of Nature
 Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC)
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for the Middle East (proposed)
 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Joint Economic Board for Palestine (proposed)
 United Nations: World Health Organization

1949

Council of Europe
 Inter-African Nutrition Bureau (proposed)
 International Commodity Clearing House (proposed)

Information Bureau for Soil Conservation and Land Utilization/Inter-African Bureau
for Soils and Rural Economy
Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia
Informal Consultative Committee on Rice
International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage
Scientific Council for Africa (SCA)

- 1951 African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases
 World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- 1952 Atlantic Payments Union (proposed)
 Commonwealth Working Party on Development (Washington Group)
 Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration
- 1954 South-East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO)
- 1955 Baghdad Pact Organization
 Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara: Inter-African
 Social Sciences Committee
- 1956 International Tin Council
- 1957 European Economic Community (EEC)
- 1958 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Africa

9.2.2 Master List

The organizations have been arranged alphabetically, with sub-commissions, committees, etc, grouped under the main body.

African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases, 1951-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)

- 1946 Caribbean Commission
- International Emergency Food Council
- International Whaling Commission
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Human Rights
- United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Narcotic Drugs
- United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Status of Women
- United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Population Commission
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- World Food Board (proposed)

- 1947 European Customs Union (proposed)
- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- International Refugee Organization (IRO)
- International Tin Study Group
- International Trade Organization (ITO) (proposed)
- International Wool Study Group
- South-East Asia League
- South Pacific Commission
- United Nations: Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories
- United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Latin America

- 1948 Anglo-Egyptian Joint Committee
- Brussels Treaty of Western Union
- Commonwealth Economic Information Committee (proposed)
- Economic Co-operation Administration (ECA)
- European Recovery Programme (ERP)
- Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council
- International Union for the Protection of Nature
- Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC)
- United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for the Middle East (proposed)
- United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Joint Economic Board for Palestine (proposed)
- United Nations: World Health Organization

- 1949 Council of Europe
- Inter-African Nutrition Bureau (proposed)
- International Commodity Clearing House (proposed)

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

International Council for the Control of the Red Locust

International Scientific Committee for Trypanosomiasis Research

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

United Nations: Food and Agriculture Organization: *International Rice Commission*

1950

Colombo Plan

Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara (CCTA)

Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara: Inter-African

Information Bureau for Soil Conservation and Land Utilization/Inter-African Bureau
for Soils and Rural Economy

Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia

Informal Consultative Committee on Rice

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

Scientific Council for Africa (SCA)

1951

African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

1952

Atlantic Payments Union (proposed)

Commonwealth Working Party on Development (Washington Group)

Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration

1954

South-East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO)

1955

Baghdad Pact Organization

Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara: Inter-African
Social Sciences Committee

1956

International Tin Council

1957

European Economic Community (EEC)

1958

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Africa

9.2.2 Master List

The organizations have been arranged alphabetically, with sub-commissions, committees, etc, grouped under the main body.

African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases, 1951-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)

- 1946 Caribbean Commission
International Emergency Food Council
International Whaling Commission
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Human Rights
United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Narcotic Drugs
United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Status of Women
United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Population Commission
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
World Food Board (proposed)
- 1947 European Customs Union (proposed)
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
International Refugee Organization (IRO)
International Tin Study Group
International Trade Organization (ITO) (proposed)
International Wool Study Group
South-East Asia League
South Pacific Commission
United Nations: Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories
United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Latin America
- 1948 Anglo-Egyptian Joint Committee
Brussels Treaty of Western Union
Commonwealth Economic Information Committee (proposed)
Economic Co-operation Administration (ECA)
European Recovery Programme (ERP)
Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council
International Union for the Protection of Nature
Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC)
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United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Joint Economic Board for Palestine (proposed)
United Nations: World Health Organization
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- International Council for the Control of the Red Locust
- International Scientific Committee for Trypanosomiasis Research
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- United Nations: Food and Agriculture Organization: International Rice Commission

- 1950 Colombo Plan
- Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara (CCTA)
- Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara: Inter-African
 Information Bureau for Soil Conservation and Land Utilization/Inter-African Bureau
 for Soils and Rural Economy
- Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia
- Informal Consultative Committee on Rice
- International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage
- Scientific Council for Africa (SCA)

- 1951 African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

- 1952 Atlantic Payments Union (proposed)
- Commonwealth Working Party on Development (Washington Group)
- Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration

- 1954 South-East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO)

- 1955 Baghdad Pact Organization
- Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara: Inter-African
 Social Sciences Committee

- 1956 International Tin Council

- 1957 European Economic Community (EEC)

- 1958 United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Africa

9.2.2 Master List

The organizations have been arranged alphabetically, with sub-commissions, committees, etc, grouped under the main body.

African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases, 1951-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

At the African Rinderpest Conference held in Nairobi in 1948 it was resolved to establish an inter-African rinderpest bureau. The scope of the bureau was then expanded to include all the main epizootics in Africa. The bureau was established in Kenya in 1951 and received contributions from the UK, France, Belgium, the Union of South Africa, Portugal and Southern Rhodesia under the aegis of the Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara (qv). The British colonial governments in Africa contributed to the UK share of the costs. The bureau provided an information centre on the economic and technical aspects of the main infectious and contagious diseases of livestock in Africa. It also collected and distributed relevant information to participating governments on the individual territories, policy for control and research of these diseases, and reported on outbreaks of disease and research on immunization.

References: CO 852 (CO 852/1228/8-9; CO 852 /229/1-3). See also International Office of Epizootics

African Dehydration Mission, 1943

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Food

The mission comprised two officers from the Ministry of Food and an officer of the United States Department of Agriculture. Its objective was to assess the production of dehydrated foods and concentrated juices in Africa, Syria and Palestine and to stimulate production. It was concerned with supplies for the armed forces and civilians as well as the use of dehydrated food as a means of improving the low nutritional standards in most colonies. The mission produced a report and made recommendations.

References: MAF 83/1198

Allied African Economic Affairs Committee, 1942-?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Ministry of Production

The allied liberation of French territories in North and West Africa resulted in an increase in the number of territories that required essential supplies. Since the bulk of those supplies had to be met from UK or US sources both countries felt it necessary to set up a secretariat responsible for receiving and approving lists of civilian requirements in British and French West Africa and in the Belgian Congo. The committee also dealt with imports from the colonies. The British government was concerned that supplies to liberated areas should be sufficient to meet their minimum requirements but that a reserve should be kept for territories still to be liberated. The committee liaised with the Supplies to Liberated Areas Secretariat.

References: BT 25/43 (RG500/10); BT 25/71 (SLA/22 and SLA/22/1). See also BT 25/64-67

Allied Supplies Executive, 1941

Departments and Institutions Involved: Air Ministry, Cabinet Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of War Transport

The Allied Supplies Executive was set up by Winston Churchill in October 1941, following the Moscow conference held the previous month at which British and American representatives agreed to programme supplies to the USSR, the Persian Gulf area, and later to Turkey and China. The executive took over the functions of the Committee for the Co-ordination of Allied Supplies (CAB 92/22-26). Numerous sub-committees were set up to deal with transportation and supplies to other countries. Much of the work of the executive was taken over by the Ministry of Production in 1942, but a small central staff was maintained in the War Cabinet office.

References: AVIA 38/975-977; CAB 92/1-17; CAB 111 (see the introduction to this class). See also Section 1.3.10.

Anglo-American (Army) Relations Committee, 1944

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Information, War Office

The committee was formerly known as the Sub-Committee of the Morale Committee on Relations Between British and US Troops. Its task was to discover the causes of ill-feeling between them and to foster cordial relations in all theatres of war.

References: WO 193/455

Anglo-American Caribbean Commission, 1942-1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Food

The commission was established to encourage and strengthen social and economic co-operation between the USA, its possessions and bases, and the UK and its colonies in the Caribbean area. Its responsibilities included labour, agriculture, housing, health and welfare projects. During the early 1940s its major concern became the procurement of crucial food supplies for the West Indies. At the same time, the British section was increasingly concerned about the level of US involvement and information gathering in the British West Indies. Although the commission acted in an advisory capacity it served as an important model for further discussion on regional commissions. In 1946 it was expanded to include the Dutch and French governments and became known as the Caribbean Commission (qv).

References: CO 318/452/5-8; CO 318/462/2-CO 318/464/4; CO 967/21; MAF 97/1850. See also CO 318/ 452/1-4 and CO 318/455/6

Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry into the Jewish Problem in Palestine, 1945-1948

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The committee was set up by the US and UK governments in 1945 to examine the socio-political and economic conditions in Palestine and their impact on Jewish immigration, and to review the position of Jews in Europe and find ways of safeguarding their rights. The inquiry took the form of public hearings

in Washington, London, Cairo and Jerusalem. The committee's report, submitted in 1946, recommended the admission of 100,000 Jewish immigrants into Palestine, the continuation of the British mandate in Palestine pending transfer to a trusteeship council and the economic and social development of the area for the benefit of Jews and Arabs alike.

References: CAB 129/9; CO 537/1743-1767, 1770; PREM 8/302-304, 627; PRO 30/78 (minutes, initial hearings and published report); T 220/20

Anglo-American-Egyptian Agricultural Machinery Advisory Committee (also known as Joint Agricultural Machinery Board), 1944-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Middle East Supply Centre (qv), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

The committee, set up in 1944, consisted of British and Egyptian officials and a member from the United States Foreign Economic Administration. Its main objective was to co-ordinate the procurement and distribution of agricultural machinery in the Middle East and to plan for future supplies.

References: FO 922/270

Anglo-American Supply Council for West Africa (proposed), [1942]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

An Anglo-American supply council for West Africa was proposed in October 1942 during discussions between the British resident minister in Accra and the US presidential representative in Liberia. Britain felt that it was necessary to co-ordinate the economies of the various territories in west and central Africa to aid the war effort and wanted to see the establishment of a West African supply council with headquarters in Accra embracing French, British and Belgian colonies. The USA wanted French West African colonies placed under the economic jurisdiction of the North Africa Economic Board in Algiers. Britain was opposed to the idea on the grounds that allied production interests would suffer as a result.

References: CO 852/509/3-5 (1943)

Anglo-American Supply Organization, 1942-c1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Foreign Office, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of War Transport

The scope of the combined boards established in the early 1940s was not sufficiently broad to cope with the co-ordination and integration of the combined war effort. The Anglo-American Supply Organization was therefore set up to unify control of supply and production activities other than those involving strategy. It set up various joint committees on topics such as food, shipping adjustment and raw materials under the auspices of senior officials from Britain and the USA.

References: MT 62/39

Anglo-Egyptian Joint Committee, 1948

Departments and Institutions Involved: Foreign Office

The committee, consisting of representatives of the UK and Egyptian governments, was set up to consider constitutional reform in the Sudan. It met between 11 and 28 May, when it reached an agreement which included the setting up of two further committees: an Anglo-Egyptian Committee to supervise the proposed elections in the Sudan and an Anglo-Egyptian-Sudanese Committee to consider the progress of the Sudan towards self-government.

References: FO 371/69155-69172

Atlantic Payments Union (proposed), [1952]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Foreign Office, Treasury

The Committee on Preparations for Commonwealth Economic Conference (see Section 2.3) was asked to examine proposals for the establishment of an Atlantic Payments Union on similar lines to the European Payments Union. The USA, Canada and Britain were to be among its members. The organization was intended to provide a forum within which mutual economic problems could be discussed. However, British investigators identified numerous difficulties with the proposal, notably the potential threat to the international position of sterling, which would be more vulnerable to pressure from the USA. It was therefore in Britain's interest that sterling area countries be associated with the union only through the UK. This was unlikely to be accepted by the countries themselves or the USA. It appears that these and other difficulties prevented the establishment of the union.

References: T 230/207

Baghdad Pact Organization, 1955-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

Italy and Turkey signed the Baghdad Pact in 1955 to provide mutual aid against external aggression, primarily communist expansion. The UK, Pakistan and Persia later acceded to it. Because of Britain's economic and political interests in the region it provided technical assistance to the Baghdad Pact Organization and promoted mutual economic co-operation between members of the pact. The USA gave its full support but never became a member.

References: FO 371/115485-115535; T 236/4153

British Colonies Supply Mission (BCSM), 1941-1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Aviation, Treasury

Initially known as the Colonial Supply Liaison, the mission was attached to the British Supply Council (qv) in Washington. It acted as a channel to inform the various British missions in Washington of colonial requirements. All missions were required to brief it about developments concerning the colonies. After the passage of the Lend-Lease Act in 1941 its workload increased, especially in the field of procurement. It was then renamed the British Colonies Supply Mission. Much of its work was devoted to determining the eligibility of the colonies for lend-lease assistance from the US government. The BCSM was also involved with colonial exports such as cocoa, coffee and sisal to the USA. Its work was divided between four departments: General Stores Department, which dealt with supplies such as food and drugs; Engineering Stores and Technical Department, concerned with the procurement of iron and steel, non-ferrous metals, agricultural machinery, etc; Commercial Purchase and Programmes Department, which liaised with government purchasing departments such as the British Purchasing Mission; and West Indies Department, which ensured the flow of essential supplies, especially foodstuffs, to the West Indian colonies. The West Indies Department liaised with the Anglo-American Caribbean Commission (qv) to devise a scheme to ease shipping shortages in the West Indian colonies. This involved using schooners to facilitate inter-island trade.

References: AVIA 38/922

British Supply Council, 1940-c1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Aircraft Production, Ministry of Supply

The increase in the volume of supplies to Britain from the USA caused by the war necessitated reorganization of the British supply network in Washington. This led to the creation of the British Supply Council. The council's task was to exercise general control over British supply missions in the USA. In consultation with the British ambassador, it dealt with all policy issues affecting supply. It liaised with other British supply missions in the USA such as the British Purchasing Commission, British Food Mission and British Merchant Shipping Mission. The colonies were represented on the council by a colonial liaison officer. Communications between the British government and the council were directed through a Supply Committee based at the Ministry of Supply in London.

References: AVIA 38/888-1123; CAB 115/20-24,35-44, 520

Brussels Treaty of Western Union, 1948-1949

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office.

The treaty was signed on 17 March 1948 by Britain, France, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. It was originally designed as a fifty year defensive alliance under which the members would render each other military and other assistance if any of them were attacked. It was also concerned with the question of Palestine's independence. The treaty evolved into NATO in 1949.

References: AIR 8/1982-1986; CO 537/4620; DG 1; FO 371/73045-73066; LAB 13/606-631, 653-654, 666-667, 675, 702-705, 722, 724-728, 733, 735, 739, 745, 749, 755, 767, 776, 786, 792, 1141

Caribbean Commission, 1946-?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

In 1946 the Anglo-American Caribbean Commission (qv) was expanded to include the Dutch and French governments and renamed the Caribbean Commission. Its purpose was to encourage and strengthen co-operation on social and economic issues between member governments and their respective territories in the Caribbean area.

The agreement establishing the commission provided for full co-operation with the United Nations and its appropriate specialized agencies.

The commission acted only in an advisory and consultative capacity. There were two auxiliary bodies associated with it, the Caribbean Research Council and the West Indies Conference. The research council carried out some surveys of maps and industries and produced a yearbook of Caribbean research. In 1956 there were proposals to abolish the West Indian Conference and restructure the Caribbean Commission as the Caribbean Conference. It is not clear what happened to the commission after the establishment of the British West Indies Federation.

References: CO 318/479/2-CO 318/483/4; CO 3187/499/6-CO 318/505/6 (for organization and procedure); CO 537/2256, 3820, 3822, 6151; CO 852/1321/4; CO 936/30/6; CO 396/49/3; CO 396/55/4; CO 396/409 (for the relationship with the United Nations); CO 1031/1269-1692, 2076-2110, 2112; FO 371/69040

Colombo Plan, 1950-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

At their meeting in Colombo in January 1950, the commonwealth foreign ministers agreed upon the vital importance of the economic development of south and south-east Asia to the political stability and independence of the region and to the growth of the world economy. The plan linked the industrial and agricultural based economies of members in Asia and the Pacific and of several non-regional members.

The Colombo Conference produced the Commonwealth Consultative Committee, which agreed to draw up a six year development plan. It also decided to provide funds for a technical assistance scheme for the area. The plan ensured the maintenance of the links between Britain and its former colonies in the region.

References: CO 537/5756-5757, 6092-6099, 6612-6615, 7349-7350; CO 852/1261/2-CO 852/1262/8; CO 852/1588-1589; LAB 13/165; SUPP 14/879; T 230/197-199; T 236/2752-2753. See also Section 2.3: Commonwealth Liaison Committee: Sub-Committee on the Popular Version of the Report on South and South-East Asia (Colombo Plan); Commonwealth Consultative Committee

Combined Food Board (sometimes known as the Allied Food Board), 1942-1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Aviation, Ministry of Food

Established in 1941, the board was at the centre of an elaborate machinery, involving many committees, designed to ensure the effective use of the food resources of the USA and the UK. It consisted of the head of the British Food Mission in Washington and the US secretary of agriculture. They operated through a joint secretariat assisted by an inter-agency committee through which it liaised with UK and US agencies involved in procuring and distributing foodstuffs. Standing committees were created for foodstuffs in short supply, such as sugar, oils and fats, rice and meat. The board made recommendations to the US and UK governments on the availability of foodstuffs and how best to allocate them to the allies and dependent territories. The colonies' food requirements were channelled through the London Food Committee in consultation with the board. At the end of the war the problem of food shortages eased somewhat when liberated areas were brought back into production. The standing committees were terminated for some food items, namely spices, citric and tartaric acid, essential oils and vitamins. The committees for commodities still in short supply such as oils and fats, sugar and canned meat, continued until June 1946. The board wound up its activities in December 1946 and its functions were transferred to the International Emergency Food Council (qv).

References: AVIA 38/926-928; CAB 115/600-607, 610-621; CAB 122/1424; FO 115/3594; MAF 83; MAF 97/1309-1311, 1594-1602, 1605-1772, 2263, 2482-2486, 2551-2553; MAF 151/13-59; PREM 3/487/6-7; PREM 8/162

Combined Production and Resources Board, 1942-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Aviation, Ministry of Production

The board was established in 1942 to integrate the production programmes of the USA, the UK and Canada. In discharging its duties it took into consideration the need to ensure the efficient use of allied resources and to reduce civilian demands on shipping space. It collaborated with the Combined Chiefs of Staff and the Combined Munitions Assignment Board in order to keep production in line with strategic requirements. In addition, it liaised with other combined agencies concerned with war production such as the Combined Raw Materials Board (qv). The board consisted of standing sub-committees, some of them joint committees with the Combined Raw Materials Board. These included committees on copper, footwear, leather and hides, aluminium and magnesium, coal and steel. The requirements of the empire were co-ordinated through the Commonwealth Supply Council (qv), which liaised with the Combined Production and Resources Board.

References: AVIA 38/930-932, 1143-1165, 1168, 1179, 1229; BT 28/282, 594, 1090, 1096; BT 87/3, 5, 60, 62-64, 115-118; CAB 110/8, 48-49, 53, 55-56; CAB 115/594-599; CAB 122/1420; PREM 3/481/1-7

Combined Raw Materials Board, 1942-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Economic Warfare, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply

The board was set up in 1942 to promote efficient procurement and allocation of scarce raw materials to the USA and the UK. It consisted of two members, the vice chairman of the US War Production Board and the head of the British Raw Materials Mission in Washington. It was assisted by an Advisory Operation Committee consisting of US and UK officials, through which the board maintained links with US agencies and UK departments responsible for the supply and distribution of raw materials. The committee met weekly to examine recommendations submitted by the board. The board also served as a clearing house for the collection of statistics and dissemination of information for the US and UK governments with regard to the global demand for and supply of raw materials. Given that many of the raw materials, notably tin and rubber, came from the colonies, it was necessary to liaise with colonial governments through the Colonial Office and the Empire Clearing House. As part of the effort to cope with the scarcity of raw materials occasioned by the war, the board placed great emphasis on conservation and on the co-ordination of allied production and purchasing programmes. It wound up its activities in December 1945, although distribution of some raw materials still in short supply, such as rubber and tin, was regulated until 1946.

References: BT 87/77; CAB 66; CAB 115/599; CAB 122/200, 1419; SUPP 14 (SUPP 14/838)

Combined Shipping Adjustment Boards, London and Washington, 1942-c1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Aviation, Ministry of War Transport

Two Combined Shipping Adjustment Boards were created in 1942, one in London and one in Washington. The main task was to co-ordinate allied shipping activities by integrating the programmes of the UK Ministry of War Transport and the US War Shipping Administration. In addition, the boards consulted with other combined boards and bodies on the demand for and the availability of shipping space and how best to allocate it in order to promote the war effort. The Combined Shipping Adjustment Board also liaised with the colonies with regard to economizing on shipping space.

References: AVIA 38; CAB 66; CAB 115/304-305; PREM 3/382-PREM 3/387/3 (general shipping files)

Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara (CCTA), 1950-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Health

The commission was established by the governments of the UK, France, Belgium, Portugal, Southern Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa to promote co-operation between the territories in Africa south of the Sahara on technical, scientific and social matters affecting development. It provided a forum for co-ordinated action by the colonial governments on matters of common concern and worked with the Scientific Council for Africa (qv), which provided scientific advice. The commission organized a wide

range of technical conferences in Africa and administered a number of special inter-African information bureaux. The British government did not view the CCTA as the exclusive agency for technical development in Africa. It therefore supported the establishment of a World Health Organization (WHO) African Regional Bureau on which Britain was to represent all its African colonies except the Gold Coast and the Gambia.

References: CAB 133/7, 18-24; CO 537/7154-7156B; CO 852/1077/5-7; CO 852/1078/1-2; CO 852/1282/2 (relations between FAO and CCTA); CO 936 (CO 936/34/3 Intergovernmental Committee on Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara; CO 936/57/2; CO 936/64/5 relations with World Health Organization); CO 1029/91-92, 122-126, 156-197

Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara: Inter-African Information Bureau for Soil Conservation and Land Utilization/Inter-African Bureau for Soils and Rural Economy, 1950-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The bureau was set up in Paris in 1950, following recommendations made at the African Soils Conference at Goma in 1948, as a technical bureau of the CCTA. Its membership included Belgium, France, Portugal, the UK and the Union of South Africa. Its objective was to collect and disseminate information concerning technical, economic and social aspects of soil conservation and utilization. In 1949 the Indigenous Rural Economy Conference in Nigeria had recommended that the bureau should also study the economic and social development of African rural economies. It assumed this responsibility in 1952 and changed its name to the Inter-African Bureau for Soils and Rural Economy. In the same year, following recommendations made at the Fifth Session of the CCTA, it also became responsible for collecting and distributing information on the social aspects of mechanization. The British government contribution was shared among the colonial and high commission territories in Africa.

References: CO 852/1223/4-CO 852/1224/4; CO 852/1311/3; CO 936/65/6; CO 936/131, 253, 255; CO 1029/188-190

Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara: Inter-African Social Sciences Committee, 1955-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The committee was established in 1955 under the sponsorship of the CCTA by the governments of Belgium, Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, France, Portugal, the UK and the Union of South Africa. Its objective was to provide a permanent organization for promoting and encouraging mutual consultation, liaison and co-operation in the field of social sciences in Africa south of the Sahara.

References: CO 927/155/8-CO 927/174/4; CO 927/358-359, 361-362, 373-390, 377-379, 657

Commonwealth Economic Information Committee (proposed), [1948]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

Following a conference of commonwealth prime ministers in October 1948 recommendations were made for closer co-operation between commonwealth governments on economic and financial matters. The UK government felt that a committee was needed to supplement the existing consultative machinery between the UK and other commonwealth countries and facilitate more frequent contacts between senior officials concerned with financial and economic matters in the Commonwealth. UK officials drawn from the Central Economic Planning Staff of the Treasury and the Economic Division of the Commonwealth Relations Office were to undertake periodic visits to liaise with their opposite numbers in the Commonwealth. The UK government felt it was particularly necessary to impress upon commonwealth countries the need to maintain adequate sterling balances in view of the impending termination of Marshall Aid.

References: T 232/46

Commonwealth Supply Council (CSC), 1942-c1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Air Ministry, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, India Office, Ministry of Aircraft Production, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of War Transport, War Office

The council was established in London to co-ordinate the requirements of and supplies from the British Commonwealth other than fuel and foodstuffs. Its work was divided into four main sections, with a committee dealing with each section. The governments of the dominions, including Southern Rhodesia, were represented on all the committees. The sections covered: planning of commonwealth munitions production; examination of the requirements of non-munitions; co-ordination of raw material supplies; and procurement and distribution of machine tools. The council's work was carried out in liaison with such joint bodies as the Combined Production and Resources Board (qv) and the Combined Raw Materials Board (qv). For instance, it was responsible for presenting an 'empire picture' to the Combined Production and Resources Board.

References: AVIA 22/199; AVIA 38/934, 1074; BT 28/548-553, 736, 971, 1101; CAB 115/529, 532-542; MAF 97/2070. See also AVIA 38/941-943, 1113

Commonwealth Supply Council: Railway Equipment Sub-Committee, 1942-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of War Transport, War Office

The sub-committee examined the need for co-ordination within the empire in the repair and maintenance of railway lines.

References: BT 28/554-605; BT 96/172; CAB 115/539

Commonwealth Working Party on Development (Washington Group), 1952-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office

The working party was set up in Washington to consider the prospects of US investment in the sterling area. It consisted of senior financial government representatives from the UK and commonwealth countries including Ceylon.

References: T 236/3591

Council for Technical Co-operation in South and South-East Asia, 1950-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office

The council was established in 1950 under the Colombo Plan (qv) with headquarters in Colombo. Its founding members, namely Australia, Canada, Ceylon, India, New Zealand, Pakistan and the UK, were later joined by other commonwealth and non-commonwealth countries. Its purpose was to assist the economic development of the region through the provision of technical assistance, for instance by training personnel and providing equipment. Assistance was arranged on a bilateral basis by agreement between co-operating governments. The council's constitution provided for co-operation with the United Nations and other agencies providing technical assistance in the area.

References: CAB 133/7; CO 936/55/5; T 236/2646 (concerns meetings in London)

Council of Europe, 1949-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The council was established in 1949. Its original members were Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the UK. Membership continued to grow but was confined to Europe. The council aimed to achieve a greater unity between its members for the purpose of developing their economies. Matters relating to territorial defence were left to NATO.

The council's jurisdiction was primarily Europe, and it did not concern itself with matters relating to the non-self-governing countries excepting aspects of European immigration and commercial engagements in some of the territories. For instance, it took an interest in the repatriation of profits and capital, taxation and establishment of companies in British African territories.

References: CO 537/4622, 5776-5779, 6638, 7157-7158, 7807; CO 936/67/3-6; CO 936/153-168, 289-301; T 220/391; T 229/863-864, T 230/200; T 232/375-393

Desert Locust Control International Organization (proposed), [1938]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

At the Fifth International Locust Conference held in Brussels in 1938 preliminary plans were made for a permanent international organization for the control of the desert locust. The governments concerned were the UK, Egypt and India and to a lesser extent the USSR, Persia, Iraq, Somalia and Eritrea. The plans were interrupted by the war. However, in 1943, on the recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Locust Control (see Section 8.3.2), the British government produced a draft scheme providing for a centralized information service on the breeding, seasonal movements, etc, of desert locusts and a control service to take preventive measures against outbreaks. The proposed organization was to cover all territories in Africa and Asia affected by the desert locust. The proposal was rejected in 1946 by the Egyptian government, which put forward its own scheme. Ultimately the governments concerned failed to reach agreement on the measure of international control envisaged and the division of financial responsibility. Colonial governments' contributions and representation also caused some controversy. In the end the convention was not signed and no permanent organization was set up.

References: CO 852/400/4; CO 852/545/1; CO 852/746/3; CO 927/146/5-CO 927/155/7; CO 927/ 460-482

Eastern Group Supply Council, 1940-1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Burma Office, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, India Office, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply, Treasury, War Office

The council was set up as a result of recommendations made at a conference in Delhi in October 1940 attended by representatives from the UK and the empire, including Southern Rhodesia, Burma, Ceylon, Palestine, Malaya, Hong Kong and the Conference of East African Governors. It aimed to secure maximum co-operation between its members in catering for the needs of the military forces in the Eastern Group theatres of war from local sources without interfering with UK production.

To promote efficiency and for strategic convenience three provision offices were set up in the eastern part of the British empire. The Middle East office covered Kenya, Uganda, Egypt, Palestine, Syria and the Sudan; the Singapore office covered Burma, Malaya and Hong Kong; and the India office covered Iraq and India. The offices submitted their external requirements to a central provision office at the council's headquarters in Delhi, which in turn transmitted them to the War Office and the Ministry of Supply in London. These departments decided whether the provisions could be met from UK provisions or from North America.

References: AVIA 22/3272, 3282-3284, 3285; CO 852/501/1-CO 852/502/6. See also AVIA 22/539-546, 2624, 2676, 3286

Economic Co-operation Administration (ECA), 1948-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Supply, Treasury

The organization worked in conjunction with the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) (qv) with the long term objective of promoting a sound European economy through the Marshall Plan and co-operation among the European countries. The colonies were considered vital to the recovery programme, and the ECA took the initiative to extend loans for colonial projects from its overseas development pool. For example, it extended a loan of up to £5,000,000 sterling to develop the Rhodesian Railways and it sought to increase copper production in Northern Rhodesian mines for the use of the USA and Europe.

References: CAB 133/49-50; CO 537/3221-3225, 4526, 6621-6622, 7571; CO 852/1022/1-CO 852/1026/8; CO 852/1143/3; CO 852/1289/2-CO 852/1297/11; CO 927/183/9; FO 371/71817, 71821-71822; SUPP 14/28 (loan to Rhodesian railways); T 199/256; T 220/421-425 (technical assistance to the colonies); T 232 (T 232/139-143, T 232/255-257, 263-265, 321-325); T 236/1930, 1939-1940; T 237/228-229

European Customs Union (proposed), [1947]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Foreign Office (Economic Department), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

The idea of a European Customs Union dates from the Paris Conference of September 1947 when, in relation to the European Recovery Programme (qv), a number of European countries undertook to study the creation of a customs union as a means of increasing European prosperity. The study group included Austria, Benelux, France, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the UK. The proposed union was intended to create an area within which goods could move freely without duties and impose a common external tariff on non-members. The establishment of a European Customs Union with British membership had implications for Britain's trading links with the dependent territories. In the end the union was not established.

References: BT 11/3605, 3883, 3887, 4027, 4219, 4424; CAB 133/36, 38; MAF 40/169-176; T 232/268; T 236/780-781

European Economic Community (EEC), 1957-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The Treaty of Rome, which established the EEC, was signed on 25 March 1957. The treaty marked a major step in the process of closer co-operation between western European countries which began with the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951 and included the Messina Conference in Italy, where six states called for closer co-operation in Western Europe. The original members were France, West Germany, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. The EEC had

two main objectives: to remove tariffs and restrictions on the flow of goods between member states; and to ensure the free movement of labour and capital between them.

As an alternative to EEC membership it was recommended that Britain and the Commonwealth should use the wider machinery of GATT to modify the Rome Treaty provisions. Britain also advocated the creation of a European Free Trade Area in association with and as a complement to the EEC.

References: BT 205/261; CAB 133/192; T 199/690; CO 852/1723-1737

European Recovery Programme (ERP), 1948-1951

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The European Recovery Programme, better known as the Marshall Aid Plan, was designed to revitalize the economic life of Europe after the Second World War. Its objectives included the promotion of production and the maximum interchange of goods and services within Europe. It also aimed to achieve, as soon as possible, a multilateral system of payments among the European countries.

The establishment of the ERP set in motion a whole range of international economic activities among the western European countries and between them and the colonial territories. For example, the Economic Co-operation Administration (qv), part of the ERP, financed various colonial projects including the supply of geologists to the colonies and support for building railways. The programme came to an end in June 1951.

References: CAB 133/18-24, 54, 76, 94-95; CO 537/2843-2844, 3161-3165, 3169, 3172, 3190, 3196-3212, 3217-3218, 3220, 5145-5173, 6623-6672, 6674, 7568-7574; CO 852/885/1-CO 852/887/2; CO 852/1019/1-CO 852/1026/8; CO 852/1288/5-CO 852/1324/7; FO 371/91822; MAF 97/1213-1219, 1229-1231; PREM 8/980; T 232/10-23, 49-85, 154-156, 232-234, 268-270; T 236/782-852, 1887-1959, 2508, 2677-2681, 2925-2928; T 237

Far Eastern Commission, 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The commission was set up by an agreement between the USA, UK, USSR and China as a result of the Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Moscow in December 1945. Its main function was to formulate policies, principles and standards by which Japan could accomplish its obligations under the terms of surrender. The Foreign Office felt that the commission was important because it provided a multilateral voice for policy making in the area which otherwise tended to be exclusively American.

References: FO 371/72883

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Treasury

The agreement was signed in 1947 and came into force in January 1948. It was essentially a multilateral trade arrangement to reduce tariffs and quantitative restrictions on international trade. It facilitated joint action and decision-making by the contracting parties in terms of consultations in matters affecting the general agreement and bilateral and multilateral negotiations for the reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade. The agreement stripped Britain of some of the imperial preferences that it enjoyed with the colonial territories. At the same time it was used to restrict imports, particularly from Japan, to the colonial territories.

References: BT 11/3775, 3888, 4072, 4077, 4086, 4301, 4388, 4415; BT 205/1-32; CAB 130/109; CAB/133/118; CAB 134/1153-1156; CO 537/4449-4450, 7556-7559; CO 852/706/1; CO 852/707/5-CO 852/708/3; CO 852/709/3; CO 852/1253/1-1258/2; CO 1031/1016 (effect of GATT on the economy of the British Caribbean area); T 223/287; T 236/2519-2522, 2778-2784, 3806-3811, 4029-4033, 5968-5977. See also Section 2.3 for Cabinet committees on trade and finance.

Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council, 1948-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The council formally came into existence in November 1948 following an agreement reached at the FAO Fisheries Conference earlier that year. Its aim was to further mutual interest in the development and proper utilization of the aquatic resources in the Indo-Pacific Area. The council had an executive committee and two technical committees. Ceylon was among its members, and the South-East Asian territories and Hong Kong sent delegates.

References: CO 852/1279/1; CO 936/55/5

Informal Consultative Committee on Rice, 1950-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The committee was formed under the auspices of the office of the Commissioner-General for the United Kingdom in South-East Asia. It consisted of representatives of rice importing and exporting countries, including most South-East Asian countries, the USA, Portugal, Ceylon, Hong Kong and Mauritius. It served as a centre for the exchange of information on rice matters and for periodic discussions of the rice situation.

References: CO 825/81/10 (contains papers of the 2nd meeting)

Inter-African Nutrition Bureau (proposed), [1949]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

At the Inter-African Conference on Food and Nutrition held at Dchang in the French Cameroons in 1949, recommendations were made for the establishment of a permanent inter-African nutrition bureau under the aegis of the CCTA (qv). It was to provide an information centre on nutrition work in Africa and facilitate contact between research workers and bodies interested in nutrition problems. The colonial governments in Africa felt that such a bureau was premature. The British government did not ultimately support the proposals on the grounds that the development of nutritional work in the individual African territories had not yet reached the stage when it could be profitably co-ordinated on an international basis through the machinery of a permanent bureau.

References: CO 859/230/1-5

Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration, 1952-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Labour, Treasury

The committee was set up in Geneva outside the framework of the United Nations by a number of governments interested in the movement of 'surplus' population from Europe. Its members included most western European countries. The USA made a substantial grant on condition that no communist countries were admitted. The committee selected and trained immigrants and provided transport.

The Foreign Office was not opposed to joining, but the Ministry of Labour and the Treasury felt that the committee was unnecessary and expensive. They argued that its functions could be handled through bilateral arrangements or existing international organizations. The committee was interested in Hong Kong, Malta, Kenya and the Central African Federation as potential recipients of immigrants. The Central African Federal government and the Kenyan government, where white settlers hoped to increase their numbers, were interested in joining the committee. However, if a British dependent territory joined the committee, the British government would have been obliged to join. In the end it appears that neither the UK nor the dependent territories joined.

References: CO 859/746-747

Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees, 1938-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The committee was established on US initiative in 1938 to assist in dealing with the controlled emigration of people fleeing from Austria and Germany. It was to complement and assist the work of the League of Nations. Its functions included: providing an avenue for collaboration with the non-member states; negotiating with Germany on the conditions under which immigrants could leave; finding places of final settlement for exiles and potential exiles; providing travel documents when necessary; and administering funds. Besides Palestine, several British dependent territories, particularly those in East Africa, were considered for refugee settlement.

References: CO 318/441/7 (immigration to British Honduras); CO 537/1359 (settlement of refugees in the colonies); FO 919/1-9

International African Institute, 1926-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The institute was an unofficial body established in 1926 as the Institute of African Languages and Cultures. It received contributions from British and French African territories, Belgium and Portugal. Some missionaries subscribed directly. The institute's initial areas of concern were linguistics and education, but later it developed and promoted the discipline of social anthropology. It also provided a translating and abstracting service for current literature on Africa and maintained an extensive library which was of use to the Colonial Office staff. In 1944 it received a grant from the British government's Colonial Social Science Research Council. The following year it established an Ethnographic Survey Committee to advise on an ethnographic survey of Africa. The institute maintained important informal links with other organizations. For example, Lord Lugard, the chairman from 1926 to 1945, was also for a time president of the International Colonial Institute (qv), and J Oldham, administrative director from 1931 to 1938, was secretary to the International Missionary Council and had links with the Rockefeller Institution and Carnegie Trust. The institute was on the list of United Nations consultative organizations.

References: CO 554; CO 847/1/3; CO 847/2/8; CO 847/3/7; CO 847/4/5-6; CO 847/8/6-10; CO 847/11/14; CO 847/14/7; CO 847/18/3; CO 847/21/3; CO 859; CO 927/8/5; CO 927/9/2; CO 927/66/3-5; CO 927/75/4

International Agricultural Association for the Eastern Tropics (proposed), [1931]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The proposed association was discussed at the Fourth Pacific Science Congress in Java in June 1929. A committee appointed to consider the proposal included representatives of the Netherlands East Indies, the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, the Philippine Islands, Japan, Ceylon and Siam. The association was to initiate and promote co-operation in the study of agricultural problems relating to the eastern tropics and to encourage contact between research workers. It is not clear whether it was ever set up.

References: CO 323/1162/2. See also CO 323/1203-1205/7

International Association of Road Congresses, 1909-?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The association was established in Paris in 1909 to promote progress in the construction and use of roads. Membership was open to governments, corporations and private individuals. The association organized international congresses at four yearly intervals. Representatives of the colonies attended, but

usually not as accredited representatives of the governments concerned. For instance, although Nyasaland was not a member the director of public works was a member in a personal capacity and his subscription was paid by the Nyasaland government. The association survived until at least the end of the Second World War.

References: CO 323/1499/12-13; CO 937 (CO 937/48/3; CO 937/172/3)

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) (World Bank), 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The Bank, like the IMF (qv), originated from the Bretton Woods Conference, and was similarly established in December 1945. It was set up in the aftermath of the Second World War to assist in multilateral financing of investment and technical assistance. Specifically, it was designed to provide funds for productive purposes of its members.

Since the Bank had a close working relationship with the IMF, only members of the latter were eligible for membership in the Bank.

The provisions of the Bank stipulated that any loan by the Bank to a colonial government would have to be guaranteed by the British government since the colonies were not independent or subscribing members of the Bank. The British government therefore assumed the position that as the terms of any loans by the Bank to a colonial government would be less favourable than those borrowed on the London market, loans for the colonies should be taken from the latter rather than from the Bank.

References: CO 852/768/1; CO 1031 (for schemes in the West Indies); T 236/3992-3990

International Central Office for the Control of Liquor Traffic in Africa, 1922-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office

The office was set up in 1922 under the auspices of the League of Nations, in accordance with the 1919 Convention for the Control of Liquor Traffic in Africa. Membership consisted of Belgium, Egypt, France, Italy, Japan, Portugal, the UK and the USA. The convention regulated the import and manufacture of spiritous liquors in Africa. By the early 1950s most British colonies were departing from the terms of the convention and some territories were interested in manufacturing liquor. The British government felt that the 1919 convention should be revised.

References: CO 554 (CO 554/115/12-13, The African Liquor Control Committee); CO 847/45/1; CO 936/55/5; FO 371

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Civil Aviation

The organization was established under the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation, which was adopted in 1944 at the International Civil Aviation Conference. It operated as the Provisional Aviation Organization until it became a permanent organization in 1947 when it was affiliated with the United Nations. Its headquarters were in Montreal and it set up regional committees representing, for example, Africa, the Indian Ocean and the Middle East. ICAO sought to develop the principles and techniques of international air navigation and to foster its planning and development throughout the world. It provided an efficient machinery for achieving international air co-operation. For the purpose of the convention, British colonial dependencies were deemed to be part of UK air space.

References: CO 937/122/2; CO 937/146/1-CO 937/147/5; CO 937/152/1; CO 937/443

International Clearing Union (proposed), [1942]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Prime Minister's Office, Treasury

Proposals were put forward in 1942 to set up a post-war international clearing union to provide a multilateral payment scheme to assist international trade. Discussions were initially between Britain and the USA. Under the proposals British and colonial currencies would be part of a common pool and the dependencies would not enjoy separate individual membership. Britain favoured the scheme as part of post-war economic reconstruction.

References: BT 11/2000; PREM 4/17/4

International Colonial Institute, 1894-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The International Colonial Institute was founded in Brussels in 1894 as a quasi-official body with membership from metropolitan countries including Britain, France and Belgium. It was funded partly from individual membership subscriptions but primarily by European government subsidies. Representatives included holders of high administrative offices in colonies, prominent financiers, industrialists, academics and missionaries. The institute's main objectives were to facilitate comparative studies on colonial administration and policy and to exchange ideas between colonial powers.

In 1929 the British government subscribed to the institute for an initial three-year period, but it withdrew in 1932, ostensibly because of the world economic crisis. It felt that relatively little advantage had been gained. Moreover, the Colonial Office had reservations about the institute, which it saw as hampering the work of the Permanent Mandates Office and the International Labour Office of the League of Nations, especially on issues such as the abolition of forced labour to which most of the other European powers were still committed. Nevertheless informal links continued as the institute was highly regarded by British ex-colonial administrators, some of whom held positions in its administration. For instance, Lord Lugard was at one time its president. The institute held biannual conferences which were attended by British members. Its publications included *A Year Book of Comparative Colonial Administration*.

References: CO 323 (CO 323/1043/1; CO 323/1114/10; CO 323/1167/7; CO 323/1400/11, for example); FO 371

International Commercial Union (ICU) (proposed), [1942]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade

The creation of the union was one of several ideas proposed by the British government in preparation for talks with the Americans on post-war commercial policy. The intention was to ensure the expansion of international trade through the removal of qualitative and quantitative restrictions. Membership was to be open to those belonging to an International Clearing Union (qv) and the charter was to be enforced by an International Commerce Commission with powers to impose sanctions on countries which infringed fair trading conditions. Britain hoped that this would help to increase exports and ease the acute balance of payments problem. However, while it favoured trade expansion, the government wanted an 'escape clause' in the ICU charter which would allow members to impose restrictions on trade and capital movements in exceptional circumstances. It recognized that measures designed to remove trade barriers might entail the removal of imperial preferences between Britain and the colonies.

References: BT 11/2000

International Commission for the Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea, 1919-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

The commission was established in 1919 at a meeting called by the King of Spain in Madrid to promote the scientific exploration of the Mediterranean Sea. Its objectives included the study of physical and biological oceanography and the exploitation of marine resources, fisheries and industries connected with fishing. Palestine and Cyprus were among its members. Whereas the Palestine government felt that membership of the commission was worthwhile, the Cyprus government decided to secede from it in 1938. The commission then suggested that the UK should join because of its Mediterranean territories: Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus. The matter was referred from the Colonial Office to the Foreign Office.

References: CO 323/1213/6; CO 323/1439/6; CO 323/1544/8; CO 936/55/5

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, 1950-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Commonwealth Relations Office, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Supply

The commission was set up in India in 1950 on the initiative of the Indian government as the International Commission on Irrigation and Canals. Later the last word of its title was changed. Its objectives were to encourage progress in the design, construction, maintenance and operation of large

and small irrigation works and canals, and in the planning and financing of irrigation and drainage projects. The commission was constituted by national committees of participating countries or by representatives of governments or institutions. The British government appeared to feel that the colonies, for instance in East and Central Africa, might benefit from the research in India, and the Colonial Office was represented on the British National Committee.

References: CO 852/1220/7; CO 852/1221/1; FO 371/69048A

International Commodity Clearing House (proposed), [1949]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Food

An international commodity clearing house was proposed following the recommendations of the report of the FAO Council's Commodity Working Party. Its intended purpose was to buy agricultural surpluses in order to stabilize prices and supplies. Membership was to be open to all members of the UN. The Colonial Office objected to the proposals, which were rejected at the FAO conference in December 1949. An FAO Committee on Commodity Problems was established instead.

References: CO 537/4523; MAF 83/3272-3273

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), 1949-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The confederation was set up in 1949 after the British Trades Union Congress (TUC), the American Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) and the Dutch Federation of Labour (NVV) withdrew from the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) (qv). The three organizations wanted an alternative to the communist influenced WFTU which would bring together the 'free and democratic' trade union organizations of the world. The Colonial Office emphasized the importance of encouraging unions in colonial territories to joining the new organization rather than the WFTU, but this advice was not always heeded. For instance, in 1949 the Trinidad and Tobago Trade Union Council voted to stay in the WFTU.

By the 1950s the ICFTU had become more involved in colonial questions. From 1950 it sent delegations and missions to visit most of the territories in Africa, while the TUC took an interest in aiding unions in the colonial territories. In 1957 the ICFTU held its first African Regional Conference in Accra to counteract WFTU influence in the region as well as that of the newly formed Arab Federation of Trade Unions in North Africa. Throughout this period the Colonial Office became increasingly concerned by the anti-colonial stance of the ICFTU.

References: CO 537 (CO 537/4282, formation); CO 859 (CO 859/831, West Africa); LAB 13/632-711, 1117-1118, 1147-1150, 1277-1278 (International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions)

International Cotton Advisory Committee, 1939-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Supply, Treasury

The committee, set up in 1939 largely on US initiative, consisted of representatives of the main cotton producing countries. Its purpose was to review developments affecting the world cotton situation, collect and disseminate statistics and recommend measures for the furtherance of international collaboration in maintaining and developing a sound world cotton economy. Initially the UK was not a member but the Colonial Office represented the Sudan's interests. In 1945 the committee set up a Cotton Study Group to explore the basis for an international agreement. The UK joined the study group, and in 1946, when membership was expanded to include consuming countries, it joined the committee. It aimed to avoid the introduction of a restrictive scheme along the lines of pre-war tin and rubber schemes, which would not be in the interests of the cotton-producing territories such as those in East Africa, the West Indies and Nigeria.

References: BT 11/2472; T 246/118

International Council for the Control of the Red Locust, 1949-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The council was set up in Northern Rhodesia in 1949 when the UK, Belgium, the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia signed the International Convention for the Permanent Control of Outbreak Areas of the Red Locust. Portugal joined the following year. The convention, which was to last for ten years, also formally established the International Red Locust Control Service, which had been operating on an informal basis for several years. The main objective of the service was to control the red locust outbreak areas in Tanganyika and Northern Rhodesia. However, by 1950 the locust population had increased to dangerous levels requiring more equipment and the organization applied for assistance from the Overseas Development Pool of the Economic Co-operation Administration (qv).

References: AY 11/55; CO 852/750/2; CO 852/751/2; CO 852/1304/5. See also AY 11/53 (Red Locust Committee) and CO 852/1304/5 (International Red Locust and Control Organization)

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, 1902-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Treasury

The council was established in 1902 under an agreement among representatives of Germany, Denmark, the UK, Ireland, Norway, the Netherlands and Russia. Other states joined later. Its main activities were practical scientific investigations of food, fishes, plankton and seawater as a basis for international conventions aimed at securing a better output from fisheries. It maintained a close working relationship with the FAO (qv). The council set up the West African Fisheries Research Station and launched a

research vessel in the early fifties. The Colonial Office declined to take an active part in its Atlantic Slope Committee, which co-ordinated research programmes in the Atlantic Slope area.

References: CO 852/1214/12; CO 936/55/5

International Council for Tin Research and Development, 1932-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

The council was established in 1932 with Sir John Campbell, economic and financial adviser to the Colonial Office, as chairman. It consisted of representatives nominated by the governments of various countries where tin was mined, including the Malay States and Nigeria. Its function was to administer the funds raised by means of a levy on tin production for research and the promotion of the use of tin.

References: DSIR 17/156

International Emergency Food Council, 1946-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Food

The council replaced the Combined Food Board (qv). Based in Washington, it formulated recommendations dealing with the international distribution of food and auxiliary materials during the transition period from a wartime to a peacetime economy. Its numerous committees included specialized commodity committees, many of which dealt with commodities of colonial origin, such as cocoa. Requests from the colonies for food supplies appear to have been handled by the British Food Mission.

References: MAF 83/1529, 1537-1541, 1547, 1562, 1571-1574, 1586-1587, 2191, 2221, 3042-3043, 3050-3051, 3061, 3086, 3160, 3173; MAF 97/419, 424, 426, 400-462, 465-468, 470 474, 637, 1528, 2689-2744; MAF 151/172-186

International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, 1905-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Founded in Rome in 1905, the institute collected and published statistics on agricultural conditions throughout the world, studied the development of technical methods of agriculture and dealt with special questions such as the prevention of diseases of plants and animals. Its members included a large number of countries. Colonies were generally represented by the appropriate colonial power. The British government considered the institute important to the development of agriculture within the empire. Following proposals presented at the International Congress of Foreign and Colonial Agronomy in 1926, the Bureau of the Commission for the Agriculture of Tropical and Sub-Tropical countries was set up as part of the institute's International Scientific Council. Its scope covered the

British tropical dependencies but its work tended to overlap with that of the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux. Closer association with the League of Nations was considered in the early 1930s.

References: CO 323 (CO 323/1529/3, for instance); FO 371/14420; MAF 40/1-4

International Labour Organization (ILO), 1919-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Labour.

The ILO was established in 1919 as a direct result of the terms of the Paris Peace Treaty. It was funded by the member countries of the League of Nations as well as by certain non-member countries. It sought to promote the regulation of labour conditions, the limitation of working hours, the right to organize and to equal pay. The ILO was composed of three tiers: the International Labour Conference, which met annually; the governing body, which met tri-annually; and the permanent secretariat. The governing body and the secretariat formed the International Labour Office, together with representatives from government, industry and the work force.

Under the treaty the UK was responsible for extending the conventions that it ratified to the dependent territories, unless local conditions made them inapplicable. This obligation was more explicit under the revised ILO constitution of 1946, when the ILO became the UN's first specialised agency. The Ministry of Labour continuously prodded the Colonial Office for declarations from the colonies, particularly in the 1950s. The Colonial Office claimed that due to understaffing it was unable to handle the additional paperwork involved and delays were unavoidable. Moreover, colonial governors frequently claimed that local conditions made the conventions inapplicable, particularly where colonies had an unofficial majority on the Legislative Council, for instance in the Bahamas and Malta. The ILO gradually shifted its emphasis from legislation and regulation to involvement in specific technical co-operation programmes under the aegis of the United Nations (qv).

References: CO 323; CO 537; CO 859 (files concerned directly with the dependent territories, for example CO 859/331 'The application of international labour conventions to non-metropolitan territories'); FO 371 (especially the Western Department from 1930); PREM 8/1009. The most important class relating to the ILO is the records of the Overseas Department of the Ministry of Labour (LAB 13). It contains material on numerous ILO conferences, the composition of the ILO, references to Whitehall interdepartmental committees on labour questions in the colonies and key files such as 'Machinery of post-war international labour organization' (LAB 13/84) and LAB 13/391 (proposed Asian Advisory Committee).

International Monetary Fund (IMF), 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The fund was a specialized agency of the United Nations with origins in the UN Monetary and Financial Conference held at Bretton Woods in July 1944. There were originally 39 members. Because of its close working relationship with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) (qv), the fund's members were automatically members of the bank.

The fund was designed to assure multilateral payments facilities on current transactions among member countries and to help eliminate foreign exchange restrictions that hampered the growth of world trade. It was also expected to help alleviate disequilibrium in the international balance of payments of member countries.

The British government believed, however, that direct assistance by the fund to dependent territories would influence the process of development and thereby affect Britain's colonial policies. There were attempts to discourage colonial governments from applying for assistance from the fund. The Treasury recommended that the colonies receive loans from the London market.

References: CO 852 (CO 852/768/1-2; CO 852/1081/1); PREM 4/17/8; T 236/3496-3498, 3972. The main records are in T 230 and T 236 as well as in the Keynes Papers in T 247. See also Section 2.3, Steering Committee on International Organizations.

International Office of Epizootics, c1924-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

An international agreement drawn up in Paris in 1924 established the International Veterinary Bureau, which later became the International Office of Epizootics. The UK represented the colonies, and Iraq and Palestine were among the members. The office provided information on epizootic diseases and their control, stimulated and co-ordinated research on contagious diseases and prepared international agreements regarding control regulations. In 1950 it was proposed that it should become a commission of the FAO.

References: CO 323/1311/2; CO 323/1410/5; CO 1205/3-4. There are also brief descriptions in CO 936/20/7; CO 936/55/5; FO 371/72883. See also African Bureau of Epizootic Diseases.

International Office for the Protection of Nature, 1928-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The office was established in Brussels in 1928 through private initiative. Membership included official delegates from Belgium, France, the Netherlands and their colonies, and unofficial delegates from the UK, USA and Poland. In 1933 a conference was held to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of the Flora and Fauna of Africa. There was also a proposal to set up a new international organization for information on the protection of nature, as some of the delegates did not want to make use of the International Office for the Protection of Nature. The Colonial Office had reservations, for it was felt that the existing office might try to interfere in the administration of the territories. It favoured the International Union for the Protection of Nature (qv), which was ultimately set up.

References: CO 323 (particularly CO 323/1406/17). See also CO 323/1234/11-13 and CO 323/1235/1 for the International Conference for the Protection of Nature in Africa, and FO 372/3305-3306 for the International Convention for the Preservation of Fauna and Flora, 1938, CO 847/41/3 for 1949 and CO 847/52/8 for 1950

International Office of Public Health, c1903-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Health

The office was established as a consequence of the Ways and Means Commission of the Paris Sanitary Convention of 1903. Its original object was to collect and collate information on the progress of infectious diseases and to publish periodic reports. The Permanent Committee of the office acted in an advisory capacity to the League of Nations. The office was also concerned with disease and health conditions outside Europe, particularly in the colonies. It administered the International Sanitary Convention of 1926. For the purpose of the convention the Colonial Office acted as principal health authority for the British colonies, protectorates and mandates. In 1934 the colonies were split into two groups, African and non-African dependencies, in order to have two representatives on the permanent committee.

References: CO 323/997/13 (Permanent Committee); CO 323/1014/6-7 (local quantitative regulations, International Sanitary Convention); CO 323/1463/2-4; CO 859/12/16-17; FO 371/67596

International Railway Congress Association, c1900-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Transport

The date of the association's establishment is unclear. Its headquarters were in Brussels, and its object was to facilitate the progress and development of railways through publications and by holding periodic congresses. The membership mainly represented state railway administrations, although governments could also join. It would appear that before the war colonial governments were interested in the association and in some cases the British government paid subscriptions on their behalf. The association's activities were halted during the war, and it seems to have lost touch with the Colonial Office for several years thereafter.

References: CO 323/1201/22; CO 323/1499/10; CO 937/51/1. See also RAIL 1023 for proceedings of the Association, RAIL 1024 for bulletins and AN 128 for records of the 16th session in London

International Red Cross, c1863-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The International Red Cross served as the umbrella for all the duly recognized National Red Cross Societies. A voluntary aid organization, it had the support of the British government from its inception in 1863. It provided humanitarian assistance to victims of war and peoples living under poor socio-economic conditions. In line with its objective of safeguarding better living standards, it demanded that governments provide their subjects with the appropriate human rights and facilities for development. Following a resolution passed at a 1956 conference it sought permission from the colonial powers to carry out humanitarian work in the colonies. There are indications that the British government was

opposed to the idea on the grounds that such visits might be used to criticize its colonial policies.

References: CO 936/391

International Refugee Organization (IRO), c1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The IRO took over the work of UNRRA (qv) and of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees (qv) in 1947. Its aim was to solve the social and political problems caused by the displacement of millions of refugees as a result of war, through repatriation or resettlement and legal and political protection. It hoped to complete the resettlement process by 1950. In addition to the great number of refugees resettled in Palestine, other British overseas territories were examined as possible places for permanent settlement. The British government considered using the IRO's services to resettle some of the 10,000 Poles who had been temporarily received in East Africa.

References: FO 371 (FO 371/72045-72054, 72064-72065, 72086B and C); LAB 13/789-791; PREM 8/1265. See also Section 2.3: Steering Committee on International Organizations; and Resettlement of Refugees

International Relief Union, 1927-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The union was established by a League of Nations Conference in Geneva in 1927 and began operating in 1932. The objectives were to provide emergency relief and first aid in disasters, co-ordinate and encourage mutual international assistance and study preventive measures. When the British government acceded to the convention it requested the insertion of a clause excluding the dependent territories. It felt that the territories would not benefit from the union as Britain would provide relief in the event of a disaster. In 1951, the United Nations adopted a resolution recommending that the union be terminated. Negotiations were conducted to that end.

References: CO 323/973/25252; CO 936/55/5; FO 371/24438

International Rubber Committee, 1943-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Ministry of Supply

When the International Rubber Regulations Committee (qv) was disbanded in 1943, it was felt that the machinery for international co-operation and the statistical information service that it provided should be maintained. A new committee was set up between the UK, the Netherlands and India, and the USA was encouraged to participate. The committee collected and exchanged technical information about natural and synthetic rubber and prepared the way for post-war international action to secure the long-term interests of rubber producers and consumers. It had no power to regulate exports, production and planting.

References: BT 28/940. See also SUPP 14/780 (minutes of the Combined Rubber Committee) and CO 1029/119, 243 (colonial representation at international meetings on rubber)

International Rubber Regulations Committee (IRRC), 1934-1943

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Ministry of Supply, Treasury

The committee was constituted in 1934 under an inter-governmental agreement regulating the production and export of rubber and signed by the UK, France, the Netherlands, India and later Siam. It was renewed in 1938 for a further five years. The scheme fixed the percentage of permissible new planting area and limited replanting. It was essentially restrictive. In the early war years these provisions were substantially relaxed; after the outbreak of war with Japan they were inoperative. When the agreement was due to expire in 1943 there was much interdepartmental discussion about its renewal. It was considered necessary to maintain the machinery for international co-operation. However, the scheme had not been popular in the USA where it was considered to have prevented the accumulation of large stores of natural rubber. As the USA was the largest producer of synthetic rubber, the British government felt that it was essential to co-operate with the USA on future rubber policy. The IRRC was therefore disbanded and the International Rubber Committee (qv) took its place.

References: CO 852/6/3-7/3; CO 852/36/1-36/9; CO 852/77/4-5; CO 852/449/4-450/2; CO 852/517/1-2; SUPP 14/776-778. See also BT 87/148, SUPP 14/766-767 and 769 for the extension of the International Rubber Agreement in 1943

International Rubber Study Group, 1944-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Ministry of Materials

The International Rubber Study Group was established by the governments of the Netherlands, the UK and the USA to discuss common problems arising from the production, manufacture and use of rubber and to provide continuous information on supply and demand. France soon became a member, and in 1946 membership was opened to any country with a substantial interest in rubber, either as a producer or consumer. The British dependent territories were represented by a special British Colonial and Dependent Territories Delegation. In 1952 the study group set up a working party to consider an international agreement on rubber. Because of the tense political situation in Malaya the British government acknowledged that local opinion should be represented on the working party. As a result it included representatives of smallholders instead of members of the Rubber Growers Association or leaders of the rubber estate industry. In 1953 Malayan representatives successfully pushed for a balance between Asian and European representatives. In 1954 the representatives of the Singapore Rubber Trade Association and the Rubber Trade Association of Penang complained that rubber had become a political subject and that they had to give way to British government views. As Malayan independence approached, it was felt that Singapore should be represented by Malaya.

References: BT 28/951; CO 852/608/5; CO 852/1164/3-4. See also CO 537/5567 (the records of the Rubber Consultative Committee); CO 537/5567 (concerning US stock piling); CO 537/7724-7725 (for the International Rubber Study Group Working Party on the International Agreement)

International Scientific Association of Agriculture of Tropical Countries, 1919-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office

The association was established in Paris and was responsible for organizing international congresses on tropical and sub-tropical agriculture. These included discussions by the metropolitan powers of developments in tropical agriculture in the colonies.

References: CAB 58/83-85 (mention of the association and reports from the 7th, 8th and 9th International Congresses of Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture held in 1937, 1939 and 1941); CO 323/1137/8

International Scientific Committee for Trypanosomiasis Research, 1949-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The committee was established by the governments of France, Belgium, Portugal, the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia following a decision taken at the International Conference on Tsetse Fly and Trypanosomiasis at Brazzaville in 1948. Its objective was to review and co-ordinate the progress of research in Europe and Africa on various aspects of anti-trypanosomiasis work and to recommend priorities for further research. The conference had also recommended the establishment of the Tsetse Fly and Trypanosomiasis Permanent Inter-African Bureau at Brazzaville. The bureau acted as an information exchange centre.

References: CO 847/32/1-5

International Sugar Council, 1937-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Food, Treasury

An international agreement, the Chadbourne Agreement, signed in 1931 in the Hague established an international sugar council. The UK did not participate. In 1937 an international sugar conference was convened to resolve problems facing world sugar producers by securing an international agreement to maintain a reasonable balance between supply and demand on the world market through agreed export limits from various countries. The International Sugar Council was set up in London to administer the agreement.

The question of colonial representation on the council arose frequently, as did the question of colonial preference. Colonial sugar preference had been introduced in 1932 because of the slump in the colonial sugar industry. After the international agreement a certificate system was introduced for the colonies, based on the percentage of production in each colony and entitling it to preferential treatment in the UK based on a proportion of its production. In general the UK strategy was to seek as much freedom as possible in the movement of sugar from the colonies to the UK.

References: CO 323/1205/1 (plans for a council to administer the Chedbourne Agreement); CO 852/81/4; CO 852/204/1; CO 852/518/9; CO 852/615/3-5 (International Sugar Agreement); CO 852/931/1-CO 852/932/3; CO 852/1172/8-CO 852/1173/3; MAF 40/126, 130-141; MAF 83/177, 632 (International Sugar Agreement), 1645-1650, 3300, 3318; MAF 151/187-201, 203-228; T 160/1322/F13292/037; FO 372/4381

International Tea Committee, 1933-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office

The committee was the managing body of the International Tea Agreement, signed in 1933 to control exports and extension of cultivation. It was essentially a producers' committee consisting of tea producers' associations in Ceylon, India and the Netherlands East Indies, with some government representatives. The agreement was renewed in 1938 and 1943. Other tea producing areas, including Malaya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Nyasaland, were not represented, but attempts were made to bring them into the agreement. Malaya and the East and Central African colonies co-operated for a time. For example, in 1937 the committee negotiated with Kenya and Nyasaland regarding regulation of tea exports and extensions to planting areas for the period 1938 to 1943.

In 1947 the government did not support its application for consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. The International Tea Committee extended the agreement for a further five years in 1950, but the British government felt that the agreement was at variance with the provisions of the Havana Charter (see International Trade Organization and GATT). For instance, producers, as distinct from governments, were signatories to the agreement and there were no representatives of consumers' interests. The USA lodged protests to the governments concerned but the outcome is unclear. There are also indications that the British government felt that prohibitions on the export of tea seed by the countries party to the agreement effectively undermined the development of tea production in the colonies.

References: CO 852 (for example, CO 852/1175/8-9). See also CO 852/447/7 (renewal of International Tea Agreement, 1942)

International Telecommunications Union, 1865-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The union was set up in 1865 as the International Telegraph Union in Paris, by the representatives of twenty countries. It became the International Telecommunications Union when the International Telecommunications Convention was signed at the International Telegraph and Radio Telegraph Conferences in Madrid in 1932. The union's aims were to maintain and extend co-operation for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds and to promote technical development and co-operation in order to make telecommunications services generally available to the public. In 1947 it became a specialized agency of the UN. The British dependent territories as a whole

were recognized as a member of the union. In the late 1940s associate membership was introduced and some colonies and groups of colonies, such as East Africa, became associate members.

References: CO 323/1244/11; CO 937/414-419

International Tin Committee, 1931-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

In 1931 the governments of Nigeria, the Malay States, Bolivia and the Netherlands East Indies drew up an International Tin Control Scheme. The International Tin Committee was set up in London to supervise its execution and make recommendations to the governments concerned. The scheme was renewed periodically and the participants included Siam, French Indo-China, Belgian Congo, Ruanda-Urundi and Portugal. The committee administered a buffer stock scheme to stabilize prices and supplies.

References: CO 852/435/4

International Tin Council, 1956-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade

The International Tin Council was set up to administer the International Tin Agreement. Although the agreement had been negotiated in 1953 it was not ratified until 1955. Its purpose was to stabilize the price of tin and ensure adequate supplies at reasonable prices at all times. The council, which included representatives from Malaya and Nigeria, was to receive income in the form of subscriptions from member countries and possible interest on investments. It would also operate a buffer stock of tin to steady prices.

References: BT 258/451 (pieces 452-454 are closed); CO 852/435/4-6; CO 967/3, 7 (correspondence on the International Tin Agreement); CO 1029/19-20, 105-111 (International Tin Agreement)

International Tin Study Group, 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Supply

The study group arose out of recommendations of the International Tin Conference held in 1946. Its aim was to consider common problems in the consumption and production of tin, provide information on supply and demand and carry out studies. It discussed the setting up and terms of an international tin agreement. The USA was the principal tin consumer, whereas British colonies, primarily Malaya but also Nigeria, were the principal producers.

References: CO 537/3239-3242, 4513, 5579-5582; CO 852/956/2 (formation); CO 852/1179/3-1180; CO 1029/50-51; FO 371/69100-69102; SUPP 14 (between SUPP 14/37-75). See also Section 2.3: Trade Negotiations Committee: Sub-Committee on International Commodity Policy

International Trade Organization (ITO) (proposed), [1947]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Treasury

The formal establishment of the International Trade Organization was confirmed by the signing of GATT (qv) in October 1947. The ITO was to have been a specialized agency of the United Nations. However, it did not become operational because the final version of its charter, generally known as the Havana Charter, was never ratified. GATT therefore assumed the commercial policy role originally assigned to the ITO.

References: CO 537/2904; CO 852/1252/9; FO 371/69121; T 236/97, 172, 697-701, 707-710, 1176, 2104-2105, 2575-2582, 2780-2784

International Union for the Protection of Nature, 1948-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Food, Office of the Lord President of the Council

A conference, which led to the 1933 International Convention for the Preservation of Flora and Fauna of Africa, considered the possibility of setting up an international clearing house for information on the protection of nature. The International Office for the Protection of Nature (qv) already existed but some of the delegates were opposed to using it. The Colonial Office feared that it might seek to interfere with the internal administration of individual territories. Proposals for an international union for the protection of nature were introduced in 1947 at the International Conference for the Protection of Nature held in Brummen, Switzerland. A conference to establish the union, hosted jointly by UNESCO and the French Government, was held in 1948 in Fontainebleau, France. The union's constitution was signed by delegates from 24 countries including Britain and the USA, neither of which was officially represented.

The union's office was established in Brussels. Its aims included promoting collaboration among international organizations, encouraging research, creating national parks and reserves, protecting the environment and preparing an international draft agreement for the protection of nature. Membership consisted of representatives of governments, public services, international organizations and institutions concerned with the protection of nature. The union was associated with and worked in co-operation with UNESCO (qv).

References: CO 847/53/1; CO 936/62/2; FO 372/3305-3306; MAF 117/68. See also Section 2.3: Economic Advisory Council: Committee for the Application of the Convention for the Protection of Fauna and Flora; Fauna and Flora of Asia Committee: Sub-Committee for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Asia, Australia and New Zealand; Preparatory Committee for the International Conference for the Protection of Fauna and Flora of Africa, 1933; Preparatory Committee for the International

Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa, 1933, Drafting Sub-Committee. See also CO 323/1516/14-29; CO 323/1608/3-CO 323/1609/5 for general files on the Protection of Fauna and Flora in the British Empire

International Whaling Commission, 1946-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of War Transport

There had been concern in the 1930s over declining populations of blue and humpback whales and an international agreement regulating their slaughter had been signed in 1938. The International Whaling Commission was established under the International Whaling Convention signed in 1946 to conserve whale 'stocks'. Its objectives were to encourage, recommend and organize studies and investigations related to whales and whaling, and to collect and analyse statistics relating to whale populations. The UK, USA and USSR were among its members. Colonial Office involvement arose because whaling was conducted from land stations in the dependencies of the Falkland Islands colony.

References: CO 323/1260/9-CO 323/1261/2 (for the International Whaling Convention); CO 852/637/10-CO 852/638/3; DG 2-DG 5; FO 372/4379-4380

International Wheat Council, 1942-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Food

There were attempts to regulate wheat exports from at least 1933. The International Wheat Council, which first met in August 1942, included importing and exporting members. It was responsible for administering international wheat agreements, the first of which, signed in 1949, established price limits. During the first year of the agreement Britain's guaranteed purchases covered most of the dependent territories, and it procured wheat on behalf of many of them. However, the territories were gradually encouraged to switch to self-procurement. By 1952 the UK emphasized that dependent territories had all the rights and obligations of signatory countries for the purpose of the agreement.

References: CO 537/3250-3252, 4527-4530, 5522 (International Wheat Agreement); CO 852 (CO 852/1119/6 procurement of wheat and flour for the colonies, CO 852/1124/2-4, 6, CO 852/1125/9, CO 852/1126/1 application to colonies); MAF 83/568-574; MAF 84 (MAF 84/824, supplies of wheat to the colonies, MAF 84/3126); MAF 151/247-260; T 236/3773 (renewal of agreement in 1952)

International Wine Office, 1924-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The office was established by an international agreement in 1924 at the Paris International Exhibition. Its purpose was to collect, study and publish information on wine, suggest appropriate measures for protecting wine growers' interests and improve the conditions of the international wine market.

Although the UK was not a member, the possibility that wine-growing British dependent territories such as Cyprus and Palestine might adhere to the agreement was sometimes considered.

References: CO 852/20/15; CO 936/55/5

International Wool Study Group, 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade

The study group was established following a recommendation of the wool conference held in London in November 1946. It first met in April 1947. Its aims were to discuss common problems concerning the production, consumption and trade in wool, and to provide information on supply and demand. It consisted of producers and consumers. There was little colonial interest in wool as the only territory producing it in appreciable quantities was the Falkland Islands.

References: BT 11/3363 (official demands for wool cloth); BT 11/3938-3939; CO 852/1201/2-3

League of Nations, 1920-1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Home Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, Prime Minister's Office

The League of Nations was established as part of the Versailles Peace Treaty of 1919 and began functioning when the Peace Treaty came into effect in January 1920. It consisted of a general assembly and an executive council formed by the original members: the UK, France, Italy and Japan. A permanent secretariat was established in Geneva, comprising a secretary-general and a number of directors each heading a section. The mandates section, responsible for the welfare of colonies and territories previously under German and Turkish control, was concerned with the British mandate in Palestine, the Cameroons and Tanganyika. The league also addressed the vexed issue of access to colonial raw materials, which became a sore point between colonial and non-colonial powers. An interdepartmental committee was set up to examine this question (see Section 8.3.2).

References: CAB 24/187, CP 178; CAB 24/259, CP 15; PRO 30/52; T 160/379/F12353 (colonial contribution). See Public Record Office Records Information Leaflet 76 *Records relating to the League of Nations*

London Food Council, 1943-c1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Economic Warfare, Ministry of War Transport, Treasury

The council was originally established as the London Food Committee to complement the work of the Combined Food Board (qv) in Washington. Its task was to assemble data on the food requirements of, and supplies from the British empire, and to determine, in consultation with the Combined Food Board,

how best to procure and distribute available food supplies among the allied nations. Before 1943 the allied nations were preoccupied with the shortage of shipping space for the distribution of food, but, with Japan's entry into the war and its occupation of food production centres in the Far East, food shortages became more acute. The British and American governments felt that it was necessary to overhaul the combined food machinery to make it more efficient, and this led to the reconstitution of the London Food Committee as the London Food Council.

References: MAF 83

London Food Council: Sugar Committee, 1945-c1946

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Ministry of Food, Ministry of War Transport

Set up in response to the sugar shortage, the committee looked at possible new areas in which sugar refineries could be established.

References: MAF 87/238

London Rubber Committee, 1943-c1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Ministry of Production, Ministry of Supply

After Japan occupied the Far Eastern rubber producing territories, tripartite discussions were held in London between the USA, the UK and the Netherlands, to discuss emergency rubber arrangements. The London Rubber Committee was established, with a parallel committee in Washington, to procure rubber from the Far Eastern territories on reoccupation. The committees were to work under the aegis of the Combined Raw Materials Board (qv) and were to consult continuously with military planning staff. They were responsible for preparing and supervizing plans to secure maximum export of rubber as soon as the territories were reoccupied. The basic plans for British activity were formulated by the London Committee and referred to the Washington Committee for consideration. The London Committee set up a number of sub-committees.

References: BT 28 (BT 28/1120; BT 28/1113)

London Rubber Committee: Malaya Sub-Committee, 1943-c1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, US Embassy, War Office

The committee drew up plans to ensure that the maximum quantities of rubber were collected and shipped from the Far East in the period following military reoccupation.

References: BT 28/1114; BT 64/3686

Middle East Supply Centre (MESC), 1941-1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Ministry of Food, Ministry of War Production, United Kingdom Commercial Co-operation Mission

The centre was set up in 1941 as a British body based in Cairo. It was responsible for managing the civilian economy of the territories under its jurisdiction. Initially, these were: Egypt, the Sudan, Palestine, Trans-Jordan, Cyprus, Aden and Syria. Ethiopia and Eritrea became members following their liberation from Italy; Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia became member territories in March 1941, while French Somaliland and Libya joined later. In 1942, the MESC became an Anglo-American agency following the accreditation of American officials to its headquarters in Cairo. The UK and USA were represented equally on its executive committee with the chairmanship alternating between the two countries. The centre was divided into sections to deal with food, transport, medical supplies and other materials.

The fear of widespread famine in 1941 gave added urgency to the centre's work and prompted it to centralize the procurement and distribution of foodstuffs, especially wheat. It became mainly concerned with easing wartime supply problems. Its anti-locust unit operated, through the use of aircraft for spraying pesticides, to control locusts and weevils which had wrought havoc on grain crops of the Middle East territories, thereby contributing to food shortages. As part of its efforts to overcome shortages the MESC encouraged inter-territorial trade and urged the territories to grow more food, for instance, by devoting more land to rice cultivation. There were also efforts to forge closer co-operation between the Middle East territories through periodic conferences involving their representatives. The UK government felt that such co-operation could develop into a Middle East Economic Council after the war.

References: BT 28/842 (Middle East Supply Council), 898, 905, 925, 983; CAB 92/50; CAB 110/187; CO 852/489/5-492/3; CO 852/502/7-13; CO 852/545/9; CO 852/582/6-583/1; MAF 83/294-297. See also Section 5.5.2

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), 1949-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The organization came into being in April 1949 to provide the co-operative structure for strengthening the defence of Western Europe and North America. The original members were the UK, the USA, Canada, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway and Portugal. Britain's territories were of some strategic interest to NATO. For example, the Colonial Office prepared a list of colonies with mineral resources considered necessary for NATO's development.

References: CO 537 (CO 537/5486); CO 852/1316/5; LAB 13/750-751; PREM 4/35/6; T 225 (T 225/82-85); T 230/187. See also AIR 8/2031; DEFE 11/25; T 222/370 (Supreme Headquarters Atlantic Powers in Europe (SHAPE)); T 229

Official Committee on Post-War External Economic Problems and Anglo-American Co-operation, 1941- ?

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Board of Trade, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of War Transport, Treasury, War Office

The committee was set up to consider post-war economic relations between Britain and the USA. Its tasks were to prepare memoranda on monetary and financial policy and to formulate plans for international control of raw materials and investments, etc. The committee also briefed ministers and officials in these discussions with the USA and made recommendations on post-war economic policy. The committee considered a number of proposals including the need for international regulation of primary commodities.

References: CAB 117/51

Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC), 1948-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The organization was set up at a convention involving sixteen European countries and the commanders-in-chief of the Western occupied zones of Germany. It was agreed that the OEEC would be responsible for a joint programme to promote and maintain the economic recovery of a devastated Europe. The OEEC was thus an integral part of the European Recovery Programme (Marshall Aid Plan) (qv), but it survived the liquidation of Marshall Aid in 1952. The OEEC worked through its three main organs - a council, the executive committee and the secretariat - and through a variety of technical committees to which it referred for technical advice.

The British government felt that the colonies had special contributions to make to the ERP and recommended that imports from hard currency areas be replaced by increased production among member countries and in the colonies.

References: BT 11; CO 537; CO 852; FO 371 (FO 371/71822); MAF 40; PREM 8; T 220; T 230; T 232. See also: CO 852/1306/4 - CO 852/1316/6 (Overseas Territories Committee); MAF 83/3109-3111 (Committee of European Economic Co-operation: Paris Conference: food and agriculture availabilities)

Pacific Science Association, 1920-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The Pacific Science Association was established in Honolulu in 1920 by the principal scientific organizations representing countries within, or bordering, the Pacific or with interests in the region. The Pacific Science Council was the executive body. Membership was open to dependent territories. The association sought to promote co-operation in the study of scientific problems related to the Pacific region, especially those affecting the well-being, peace and prosperity of the people, and to strengthen

relations between scientists in the area. It held periodic conferences to which colonial governments were invited and kept in touch with projects sponsored by the Colonial Office in the British colonies in the Pacific area.

References: CO 927/134/3-4

Pan-African Congress, 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The Pan-African Congress was organized by the Pan-African Federation, which was an umbrella organization, created by George Padmore, for a number of movements. Its origins date back to the beginning of the century and arose as a response to European colonization and racism. During the war, according to the British government, the congress had been less active. It held its fifth meeting in 1945. Its objectives included freedom for all subject peoples and unity amongst those of African descent.

In 1947 the British government opposed the Pan-African Congress' application for consultative status in the United Nations because it saw the congress as a threat to British colonial interests. After Ghana's independence and Nkrumah's call for a Pan-African Conference in the late 1950s, the British government's attitude tended to be more co-operative with the aim of securing influence in the newly independent African states and averting possible Russian influence.

References: CAB 134/1351; CO 936/20/6-7; CO 936/55/5

Scientific Council for Africa (SCA), 1950-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The council was established by France, Portugal, Belgium, the Union of South Africa, Southern Rhodesia and the UK following resolutions made at the African Regional Scientific Conference in Johannesburg in 1949. It was an advisory body of eminent scientists appointed by the metropolitan governments collectively. It co-ordinated and stimulated scientific research between the different regions of Africa, organized the circulation of information and acted as scientific advisor to the CCTA (qv). Its work was closely linked to the CCTA, which was responsible for monitoring its budget.

References: CO 927/124/7-CO 927/126/6

South-East Asia League, 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Foreign Office

The league was founded in Bangkok in 1947 by politically conscious representatives of Indonesia, Burma, Malaya, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Siam. The league reaffirmed the principle of the right to self-determination as embodied in the Atlantic Charter and the Charter of the United Nations. It

sought to promote universal peace and respect for human rights and fundamental freedom with the long-term objective of unity in South-East Asia.

References: FO 371 (FO 371/69686-69690)

South-East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO), 1954-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Air Ministry, Colonial Office

SEATO was created under the Manila Treaty of September 1954 and grew out of the security treaty between Australia, New Zealand and the USA (the ANZUS Pact). SEATO's function was to protect the security interests of countries in the region that were not members of the ANZUS Pact.

The Colonial Office felt that SEATO should place considerable emphasis on combating subversion in the treaty area. To the Colonial Office this was best achieved through developing a sound education system for the Chinese residents of the area. For instance, it was recommended that the colonial government in North Borneo be given funds to improve Chinese schools and train Chinese teachers as a means of countering subversion.

References: AIR 8/1869-1870; CO 1030/43

South Pacific Commission, 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The commission was established in February 1947. With New Zealand's support, Australia took the initiative for its formation during its post-war drive to develop its territories and assert its position in the region. The commission covered all South Pacific non-self-governing territories administered by the participating governments: the UK, Australia, New Zealand, the USA, France and the Netherlands. It considered measures for developing and co-ordinating services affecting the social and economic welfare of the inhabitants in the area, promoted research and provided technical assistance. It had consultative and advisory powers only. There were two auxiliary bodies, the Research Council and the South Pacific Conference.

The commission's founding agreement provided for co-operation with the United Nations and its appropriate specialized agencies. The Colonial Office felt that while UK territories in the region received no direct practical help from the commission, the commission did help to promote international and commonwealth co-operation and served as a clearing house for information between the territories and metropolitan governments concerned.

References: CO 537 (CO 537/1438, 2454-2455, 3466); CO 936/30/6; CO 936/55/4 (relations with the United Nations); CO 936/491-492; CO 1036/1; CO 1036/2 (review of functions and activities)

United Nations Organization (UN), 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The UN Charter was signed in San Francisco in June 1945. The UN came into existence in October, replacing the League of Nations. In signing the charter the major member powers committed themselves to international peace and security and to co-operation in solving economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems. It was one of the UN's fundamental aims to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedom, and to eradicate poverty and underdevelopment, particularly in the non-self-governing territories.

References: CAB 129/24; CAB 134/1351; CO 537; CO 852/510/12; CO 852/1262/7-8; CO 936/1/5-6; CO 936/20/1-32/8; LAB 13/171; PREM 8; T 236

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 1946-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The fund was created by the UN General Assembly in December 1946 as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. In 1953 the name was changed to United Nations Children's Fund. It was primarily concerned with programmes to combat the widespread malnutrition, disease and illiteracy afflicting millions of children in the third world. UNICEF also provided emergency relief and supplementary aid for mothers and children. The fund's activities were financed through contributions from governments and from individuals.

References: CO 852 (CO 852/1182/8); CO 859/439 (schemes for Africa); FO 371/95896 (activities in Jamaica and Far East); FO 371/95900 (activities in Jamaica and Trinidad)

United Nations: Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The committee was set up in 1946 to examine and transmit to the United Nations information on social, economic and educational conditions. It was reconstituted in 1949 as the Special Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories. In 1950 it was asked to make a special study of education. Its report embodied many of the principles of educational policy subsequently followed in the British colonial territories.

References: CO 537/7125-7132; CO 936/4/3-4; CO 936/36/13-14; CO 936/169-203, 341-342

United Nations: Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Inland Revenue, Cabinet Office, Central Statistical Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Labour, Treasury

The council was set up at the end of the Second World War to help the UN correct the socio-economic problems which haunted the international community. It was designed to carry out functions concerning international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters. It consisted of 54 member states elected by a two-thirds majority of the central assembly.

In addition to preparing conventions and calling international conferences, the council could make arrangements for consultation with international non-governmental organizations and, after consultation with the members concerned, with governmental organizations. It set up a number of regional committees and standing committees as well as regional economic commissions for Europe, Asia, the Far East, Latin America, the Middle East and Africa.

The council stipulated that all members of the UN, particularly those responsible for administering non-self-governing territories, should respect the territories' interests. It recommended that trade with them should contain no element of exploitation and should promote their industrialization.

References: CO 537; CO 936 (CO 936/13/5); DO 35; LAB 13

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Human Rights, 1946-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Home Office

The commission submitted proposals, recommendations and reports regarding international civil rights matters to ECOSOC. It was concerned with the international bill of rights.

References: CAB 134/422-426, 973-976; CO 537/2051-2056, 3425-3429, 4575-4580, 5678-5688, 7122; CO 936 (CO 936/5/6; CO 936/37/1-CO 936/41/2; CO 936/515); PREM 8/695;

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 1946-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Home Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Health

The commission was set up by ECOSOC to succeed the League of Nations Advisory Committee on Opium and other Dangerous Drugs. It was composed of representatives of UN member countries involved in importing, producing or manufacturing narcotic drugs. It was responsible for continuously reviewing the progress of international control of narcotic drugs.

References: CAB 134/389; CO 1032/15 (British government's views on the opium problem in the colonies)

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Commission on Status of Women, 1946-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

Originally set up as a sub-commission under the UN charter, the commission received full separate status in June 1946. It prepared recommendations and reports to the council on promoting women's rights in political, economic, social and educational fields, and made recommendations on urgent problems requiring immediate attention. The status of women in non-self-governing territories was a subject of concern.

References: CAB 134/430-434, 963, 978-981; CO 936/18/2

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic and Employment Commission, 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Treasury

The commission was originally established by ECOSOC (qv) as a temporary unit but received permanent status at the second session of the council. It worked closely with the Sub-Commission on Economic Development (qv) and the Sub-Commission on Employment and Economic Stability. It was charged with the task of advising ECOSOC on the principles and problems of long-term economic development questions with the aim of preventing fluctuations in the world market. By co-ordinating national policies it sought to promote full employment thereby aiding socio-economic development, particularly in underdeveloped areas of the world.

References: CO 537/2050; CO 936/12/3-4; CO 936/13/5

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Africa, 1958-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The commission was proposed as early as 1949. It was created in 1958 as a subsidiary organ of the UN. Initially its membership consisted of six European countries with special interest in Africa - the UK, France, Portugal, Belgium, Italy and Spain - and ten independent African States. Nine African colonies were associate members. The commission was intended to help solve Africa's economic and social problems.

References: CAB 134/945; CO 936 (CO 936/19/1; CO 936/43/3-4)

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

Previously known as the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), ESCAP became a regional commission under the authority of ECOSOC in March 1947. Its membership included countries in Asia and the Pacific, the USA, France, the Netherlands, the UK and the Soviet Union. It was responsible for furthering regional co-operation on economic issues and assisting individual governments to formulate and implement balanced development programmes. It also considered the social aspects of economic development and the relationship between economic and social factors.

References: CAB 134/418-421, 969-972; CO 537/2207, 3425, 3431, 4582; CO 936/16/3-4; CO 936/17/1-3; CO 936/18/1-4; CO 936/19/1-5; CO 936/42/3-5

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for Latin America, 1947-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The commission was established by the ECOSOC in 1948 following an initiative of the Chilean representative. It was composed of members of the United Nations from North, Central and South America and the Caribbean area, as well as from France, the Netherlands and the UK. Its functions were similar to those of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (qv). Initially its objectives were to deal with urgent economic problems resulting from the war. These included promoting economic development and strengthening and maintaining relations within the region and with the outside world.

The Falkland Islands were excluded as being outside the geographic scope of the commission, but other colonial territories could become associate members if they wished. The British Caribbean territories did not apply as the commission's work overlapped with the Caribbean Commission (qv), and British Honduras declined because of its dispute with Guatemala.

References: CAB 134/387, 389, 399, 427-428, 977; CO 537/3437-3439; CO 852/1278; FO 371/69040; LAB 13/828

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Economic Commission for the Middle East (proposed), [1948]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office, Colonial Office, Foreign Office

Proposals were put forward at the seventh session of ECOSOC in 1948 for an Economic Commission for the Middle East along similar lines to other regional commissions such as ESCAP (qv). Membership was to be limited to independent states in the region with non-self-governing territories permitted associate membership.

References: CAB 134/387-388, 399; CO 537/3435-3436

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Joint Economic Board for Palestine (proposed), [1948]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Cabinet Office

ECOSOC proposed that there be a board to implement the economic union of the proposed Arab and Jewish states in Palestine. Its task would be to harmonize policies with regard to currency, customs union and transportation. It would consist of three representatives from each of the states and three foreign members appointed by ECOSOC. The proposal became redundant in view of the unilateral

decision to create the Jewish state of Israel in 1948.

References: CAB 134/387

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Population Commission, 1946-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, General Register Office

The commission was established in 1946 to study and advise ECOSOC on the size and structure of the world population, the interplay of demographic, economic and social factors, and the policies needed to influence the size and structure of populations. Its concerns included improving the quality of population statistics, the development of population estimates and forecasts and the study of migration trends.

The British government stipulated that, while it did not wish to exclude colonial territories from the commission's scope, it felt that the commission should not draw a distinction between dependent territories and independent states merely on grounds of colonial status. It did not welcome the commission's requests to be allowed to analyse colonial population data as this might have implied or condoned a greater degree of international responsibility for the territories than it was willing to accept.

References: CO 852/1126/3; CO 927/72

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Sub-Commission on Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Foreign Office

This was one of two sub-commissions of the Commission on Human Rights. Its functions, as laid down by ECOSOC, were to examine and define appropriate principles to be applied in preventing discrimination on grounds of race, sex, language or religion. The British government had difficulty in finding a good working definition for the term 'minorities' in colonial territories and felt that it was incorrect to apply European perceptions of minority issues. It suggested that the provision of sound political education was essential to elementary economic and political equality in the colonies.

References: CAB 134/978-981; CO 936/7/1-3, CO 936/8/1, CO 936/39/4-CO 936/40/2, CO 936/103-105

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Sub-Commission on Economic Development, 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The sub-commission was set up by ECOSOC as an extension of the Economic and Employment Commission (qv). It was therefore an integral part of a general UN programme to promote economic

development, particularly in underdeveloped areas.

References: CO 852/1278/4; CO 936/13/5

United Nations: Economic and Social Council: Transport and Communication Commission, 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Transport

The commission came under ECOSOC and consisted of one representative each of the fifteen members of the United Nations elected by the council. It assisted the council on matters relating to transport and communications and advised on the co-ordination of appropriate specialized agencies. In addition, it made its expertise available to other areas of the UN where its services were needed. For instance, it worked with the Security Council and the Trusteeship Council whenever necessary.

The British government thought that the commission's activities in Africa were unnecessary because it saw transport and communications matters as the concern of the colonial powers.

References: CO 936/11/4-CO 936/12/2

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 1946-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Foreign Office, Ministry of Education

The UNESCO constitution was adopted in November 1945 at a conference in London convened by the UK in association with France; it came into force in November 1946. The aim of the organization was to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, culture and communication in order to further respect for justice, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedom. UN membership carried with it the right of membership of UNESCO. Dependent territories were eligible for associate membership, provided that the administering authority made an application on their behalf.

References: CAB 134; CO 537; PREM 8

United Nations: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Food

The need for the organization arose out of a heightened sense of the importance of food policies and a re-emphasis on food production during the Second World War. This culminated in a conference in 1943 in Hot Springs, Virginia, which laid the groundwork for the establishment of the FAO in 1945. The FAO was designed to improve the methods for production and distribution of food and agricultural products and the conditions of rural populations. It set out to achieve these objectives by promoting scientific, technological, social and economic research relating to nutrition, food and agriculture; urging

improvement in processing, marketing and distribution of food and agricultural products; and emphasizing the adoption of international policies regarding agricultural commodity arrangements.

References: CO 852 (CO 852/1183/7-CO 852/1184/10; CO 852/1278/6-CO 852/1287/5); MAF 83/3154-3156; T 223

United Nations: Food and Agriculture Organization: International Rice Commission, 1949-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office

The commission had its origins in the FAO-sponsored Rice Study Group and rice meetings held in India in 1947 and in the Philippines in 1948. It came into existence in 1949 with its secretariat in Bangkok. Members included Ceylon and Egypt. Britain represented the dependent territories. The commission's objective was to promote international and national action in the production, conservation, distribution and consumption of rice, except in matters relating to international trade. Its two working parties, on rice breeding and on fertilizers, met annually. Much of the work on rice improvement took place in South-East Asia but was of interest to rice-growing in dependent territories in other regions, such as the West Indies.

References: CO 537/5591; CO 852/1279/5; CO 852/1280/1-3

United Nations: International Court of Justice, 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The court, set up in 1945 under the UN Charter, was the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It had its seat in The Hague and consisted of fifteen independent judges elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council. The court handled disputes referred to it and had advisory powers. It was concerned with the position of the dependent territories, specifically with constitutional arrangements for their self-governing status.

References: CAB 129/39; CAB 134/385

United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA), 1943-1947

Departments and Institutions Involved: British Transport and Dock Board, Colonial Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of Transport, War Office

UNRRA was set up in 1943 and became part of the United Nations in 1945. Its function was to estimate the requirements of liberated territories for essential and unavoidable relief supplies in terms of food, clothing and shelter. It was also concerned with the prevention of pestilence and the recovery of health. On the whole UNRRA examined questions relating to the return home of war prisoners and exiles, the resumption of agricultural and industrial production and the restoration of essential services to the liberated territories.

References: BT 25; CO 852 (CO 852/510/4-5, 8; CO 852/585/9-CO 852/586/5; CO 852/664/10); PREM 8/384; T 160; T 230/139-140

United Nations: Trusteeship Council, 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The council was one of the principal organs of the United Nations. Some of its members administered trust territories and others did not. It was primarily responsible for supervizing the administration of territories placed under the international trusteeship system established by the UN. It promoted the advancement of their inhabitants and progressive development towards self-government and independence. Under the authority of the General Assembly the council examined and discussed reports and petitions on developments in trust territories in consultation with the administering authorities.

References: CO 537 (CO 537/3467-3475, 3484-3487, 4590-4591, 4594-4595, 4599-4601, 5714); CO 936/4/3-4; CO 936/31/1-CO 936/32/6; CO 936/56/8-CO 936/61/3; CO 936/110-127

United Nations: World Health Organization (WHO), 1948-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office

The World Health Organization was set up following an international health conference convened by the United Nations in 1946 to consider the creation of a single institution to co-ordinate and direct international health activities. The constitution was adopted in July 1946 and the WHO came into being in April 1948. Its main objective was to achieve the highest possible level of health for all people. The WHO worked closely with the CCTA (qv).

The British government whole-heartedly supported the WHO. For instance, it welcomed the establishment of a WHO regional bureau in Africa to help alleviate epidemics.

References: CO 537/2592; CO 859/406-408; FO 371/67596

Universal Postal Union, 1875-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, Foreign Office, General Post Office

The Universal Postal Union came into being in 1875 under the terms of the General Postal Union Treaty of Berne, 1874. Its origin, however, lay in the Paris Conference of 1863. The union's objectives were to ensure the organization and improvement of the various international postal services and to promote the development of international collaboration in this sphere. It became a UN specialized agency in 1947.

The British overseas territories as a whole were accorded membership of the Universal Postal Union, with the right to a separate vote, by the Congress of Buenos Aires in 1939. However, the question of their representation arose at the Congress of Paris in 1947. The British government decided that it should represent them with the assistance of some colonial representatives attached in a consultative capacity.

References: CO 537/3263; CO 937 (CO 937/164/2-5; CO 937/165/1-2; CO 937/165/3; CO 937/407)

West Africa Supplies Committee, 1942-c1945

Departments and Institutions Involved: Admiralty, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of War Transport, War Office

The committee was set up in London following a meeting at the Ministry of War Transport in May 1942 to discuss shipping policy and supply matters in West Africa. Its purpose was to decide, in co-operation with the West African Regional Shipping Control Committee, shipping priorities for West Africa, and to consider long-term programmes of civil and military requirements of the area.

References: MT 63/288

World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), 1945-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Dominions Office, Foreign Office, Ministry of Labour and National Service

The federation was formed in 1945 following world trade union conferences in London and Paris. Members represented communist and non-communist organizations. It aimed to co-ordinate policy between its members, unify world trade unions irrespective of race, religion and political opinions and assist in the formation of trade unions in 'socially and industrially backward' countries and territories. Colonial trade unions had direct representation from the time the WFTU was set up. Disagreement between east and west, particularly over the Marshall Aid Plan, culminated in 1949 with the resignation from the WFTU of the British Trade Union Congress (TUC), American Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) and the Dutch Federation of Labour (NVV). The TUC felt that a working compromise could no longer be achieved with communist members.

After the split the WFTU continued to take an active interest in the development of colonial trade unions. It brought violations of trade union rights to the attention of the UN Commission for Human Rights, for instance in Malaya in 1949. In 1952 its executive committee agenda included assistance for trade unions and support for liberation movements in dependent territories.

References: CO 859 (CO 859/147/3-5; CO 859/891 activities in the colonies); LAB 13/171, 596-605, 1102. There are files in CO 537 but most are closed or retained (see, for example, CO 537/6559)

World Food Board (proposed), [1946]

Departments and Institutions Involved: Ministry of Food, Treasury

Proposals for the establishment of a world food board were put forward in 1946 at the FAO conference in Copenhagen. Its objectives were to stabilize prices in world markets, establish a world food reserve adequate for any emergency and provide funds to finance the disposal of surplus agricultural commodities on special terms to needy countries and territories. However, it was suggested at a meeting of the FAO Executive Committee in March 1947 that the work could best be done by the entire conference of the FAO and that the proposed council should serve as a commodity commission.

References: CO 852/803/2-3; MAF 83/3048; MAF 97 (MAF 97/2195-2199, papers of the preparatory commission); T 236/92-94

World Meteorological Organization (WMO), 1951-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Meteorological Office (Air Ministry)

The organization was first set up in 1874 as the International Meteorological Organization (IMO). The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) replaced it after the twelfth Conference of Directors of IMO in Washington in September 1947. However, the WMO was not fully established until March 1951. The organization facilitated world-wide co-operation by establishing networks of stations to provide meteorological, hydrological or other geophysical observations related to meteorology. It also promoted the establishment and maintenance of centres that provided meteorological and other related services like the application of meteorology to aviation, shipping, water problems and agriculture. It encouraged research and training in meteorology and assisted in co-ordinating these activities on an international level.

The Air Ministry handled meteorological matters for some of the British colonies, but the British government encouraged representatives from the colonies to participate in international meteorological conferences. The names and particulars of these delegates were collated by the Meteorological Office in London.

References: CO 537/2026; CO 937 (CO 937/59/4)

World Trade Alliance Association, 1942-

Departments and Institutions Involved: Board of Trade, Foreign Office, Ministry of Reconstruction

The World Trade Alliance Association was partly an unofficial think-tank and partly a pressure group. It was sponsored by a group of British industrialists under the chairmanship of Sir Edgar Jones. The Association put forward detailed proposals on how to ensure post-war economic recovery. Its basic premise was that post-war international trade had to be regulated by an international organization to avoid returning to the unregulated competition for markets which, it felt, was largely responsible for the

war. It recommended that world supply and demand for essential raw materials, foodstuffs and industries be regulated in ways which would ensure equitable distribution of resources. To achieve its objectives the Association lobbied the British and American governments to get its proposals accepted, in part or in whole, as the basis for post-war international economic order. The British and American governments' attitude to the World Trade Alliance Association was at best lukewarm and at worst antagonistic. Both governments were anxious to do away with existing restrictions on free trade and not to impose new ones.

References: BT 11/3184

CHAPTER 10

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES CONCERNED WITH COLONIAL AFFAIRS AND THE RELEVANT RECORDS

The list that follows provides an overview of conferences at which colonial affairs were, or were likely to have been, discussed. It is not exhaustive, but it should provide readers with a starting point for locating material about conferences mentioned in other sections of the guide, particularly Section 9, which concerns international organizations that had an involvement in colonial affairs. It has been compiled by searching lists of classes with colonial relevance. The Colonial Office country class lists were not searched but will yield many more references. Nor was the list of Foreign Office political correspondence, FO 371, thoroughly checked. Readers should refer to the Indexes (Printed Series) to General Correspondence (FO 409) under 'conferences' for an extensive set of references.

This list indicates, for each conference, a set of references, the year in which the conference took place or the years of the files on which it was discussed, the title of the conference and, if known, the place in which it was held. The references are not necessarily to the minutes or memoranda of the conference but may relate to its organization or its conclusions. Where there are scattered references, or if the class is known to contain relevant material but no specific piece numbers are available, only the class numbers are provided.

The organizations are listed under regional and subject headings as follows:

- Africa
- Anglo-American
- Commodities
- Commonwealth and Empire
- Conservation
- Defence
- Finance, Trade and Economics
- General
- Labour
- Middle East
- Research
- Socio-Economic Development and Technical Assistance
- South-East Asia and Far East
- Transport and Communications
- United Nations
- Welfare
- West Indies

Africa

CO 323/1137/10

1929

Pan-African Agricultural and Veterinary
Conference: Pretoria, South Africa

CAB 58/86-90; CO 323/1234/11- CO 323/1235/1	1933	First International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa: London, England
DO 119/1050	1935	Pan-African Conference (proposed) to discuss economic issues, defence and general policy: Central Africa
CO 554/121/4	1938	Fourth Conference of the Senior Members of the West African Medical Staff: Lagos, Nigeria
CAB 58/93-94	1938	Second International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa: London, England
CO 847/12/6	1938	International Conference on the Colonial Question in Africa (organized by Royal Academy of Italy)
WO 201/2676; WO 276/10	1939	Conference of Governors of British East African Territories: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
WO 201/317, 832	1939	Fort Lamy Conference (Franco-British Conference to study Franco-British co-operation in Africa): Fort Lamy, Chad
AVIA 2/2153	1940	African Postal and Telecommunications Union Second Conference: Cape Town, South Africa
CO 927/75/4	1947	Conference on African Anthropological and Linguistic Research: London, England
WO 276/10	1947	East African Governors' Conference: Nairobi, Kenya
CO 927/31/2	1947	Pan-African Archaeological Conference: Nairobi, Kenya
CO 847/38/5- CO 84739/4; PREM 8/732	1948	The African Conference: London, England
CO 852/845/2-3	1948	International Conference on Control of Territorial Water Rights along the Zambesi (proposed)

CO 859/230/1-5	1949-1952	African Conference on Food and Nutrition: French Cameroons
CO 852/1224/1; CO 852/1226/5	1949	Inter-African Conference on Rural Indigenous Economy: Jos, Nigeria
PREM 8/1340	1950	Conference on the Reorganization of Land Forces in East and Central Africa: Nairobi, Kenya
CO 852/1225/5-6	1950	Africa Land Utilization Conference
CO 927/124/6-7	1950	African Regional Scientific Conference: Johannesburg, South Africa
FO 371/97357	1951	Anglo-American Conference on Defence Arrangements for the Greater Caribbean Area: USA
CO 537/6259-6260	1951	International Conference on Defence Facilities in Africa: London, England
CO 927/258	1952	West African Inter-Territorial Conference: Accra, Ghana
CO 133/97-100	1953	Conference on the Federation of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland: London, England
CAB 133/129-130; CO 1027/32-34	1953-1954	Nigerian Constitutional Conference: London, England
CO 852/1228/5	1954	Inter-African Soils Conference (proposed): Leopoldville, Belgian Congo
CO 936/350; PREM 11/881	1954-1956	Afro-Asian Conference (Co-operation): Bandung, Indonesia
T 236/3983	1955	Conference on the Future of West African Currencies: Accra, Ghana
CO 927/359	1955	Inter-African Conference on Social Sciences: Belgian Congo

Anglo-American

CAB 99/17-18; PREM 3/458/1-8	1941-1942	Washington War Conference ('Arcadia'): Washington, USA
PREM 4/51/3	1943	Bermuda Conference on the Refugee Problem: Bermuda
BT 11/3921	1948	Anglo-American Cotton Textile Conference (Japanese Competition)
FO 371/97357	1951	Anglo-American Conference on Defence Arrangements for the Greater Caribbean Area: USA
PREM 11/1837- 1838, 2043	1957	Bermuda Conference: Bermuda

Commodities

MAF 40/4	1925-1932	International Institute of Agriculture, Conference on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture
CO 323/1137/10	1929	Pan-African Agricultural and Veterinary Conference: Pretoria, South Africa
CAB 58/83; CO 323/1149/1	1931	International Coffee Congress: São Paulo, Brazil
CO 323/1137/8	1931	International Congress of Tropical Agriculture: Paris, France
CAB 58/83-85	1937	Seventh International Congress on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture: Paris, France
BT 11/655, 831; CO 852/81/11- CO 852/83/4; MAF 34/852-854; MAF 40/127-129; PRO 30/52/304; T 160/669, 836; T 188/180-186	1937	International Sugar Conference: London, England

MAF 89/2	1938	British Empire Producers' Conference: Sydney, Australia
CAB 58/83-85; CO 323/1702/4; MAF 33/668	1939	Eighth International Congress on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture: Tripoli, Libya
CO 852/194/3	1939	Cotton Conference: Washington, USA
CAB 58/83-85	1941	Ninth International Congress on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture: London, England
CAB 117/227; MAF 97/490	1941	International Wheat Conference: Washington, USA
MAF 83/450	1942	Conference of Supply Officers (Jamaica Conference): Kingston, Jamaica
BT 11/2194; CAB 115; CO 852; MAF 83/495; MAF 97/2163; PREM 4/28/10	1943	United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture (Hot Springs Conference) (led to formation of United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO): Hot Springs, Virginia, USA
CAB 115/573	1943	International Food Conference
MAF 83/1475	1944	Empire Prime Ministers' Food Conference: London, England
CO 852/584/2-4	1944	United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference: Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, USA
CAB 133/77	1945	First United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Conference
MAF 97/2584-2599	1945	World Food Situation Conference: Washington, USA
BT 11/3310	1946	International Wool Conference: London
CO 852/908/1-2	1947	Cocoa Conference (Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance Limited): London, England

MAF 83/3101	1947	International Cereals Conference (FAO): Paris, France
MAF 83/3090	1947	First International Federation of Agricultural Producers: Scheveningen, The Netherlands
MAF 83/3085, 3093; MAF 151/229-246	1947	International Wheat Conference: London, England
CO 852/909/1-2	1948-1949	Cocoa Conference (Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionary Alliance Limited)
BT 11/3921	1948	Anglo-American Cotton Textile Conference (Japanese Competition)
MAF 83/3149-3152; MAF 97; MAF 151/247-260	1948-1949	International Wheat Conferences: Washington, USA
FO 371/68396	1948	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Conference: Cairo, Egypt
CO 859/230/1-5	1949-1952	African Conference on Food and Nutrition: French Cameroons
CO 852/1225/5-6	1949	British Africa Land Utilization Conference: Jos, Nigeria
MAF 83/2487; MAF 84/822	1949	Bukit Serene Conference (Rice): Singapore
CO 852/1156/6	1949	International Conference on Oil Palm Research: Benin, Nigeria
MAF 97/2847	1949	International North-West Atlantic Fisheries Conference: USA
CO 852/1152/1	1950	Cocoa Conference: London, England
CAB 133/29	1950	Commonwealth Meeting on Oil: London, England
PREM 8/1344	1950	Commonwealth Wool Conference: London, England

CO 537; CO 852/1180/2-3; SUPP 14/76	1950	International Conference on Tin: Geneva, Switzerland
CO 852/1152/5	1951	Cocoa Conference: London, England
PREM 8/1416	1951	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Conference: Torquay, England
CO 537/7051	1951	International Rubber Conference: Rome, Italy
CAB 133/32-34; DO 121/132	1951	Meeting of Commonwealth Ministers concerned with supply and production: London, England
CO 852/1191/3	1952	Sixth British Commonwealth Forestry Conference: Canada
CO 1031/853	1952	Caribbean Fisheries Conference: Port of Spain, Trinidad
T 229/577-579; T 236/3362-3371	1952	Commonwealth Economic Conference
CO 927/258	1952	West African Inter-Territorial Conference: Accra, Ghana
CO 1031/852	1953	Conference on Caribbean Timbers, Their Utilization and Trade within the Area: Port of Spain, Trinidad
MAF 117/402-403, 405	1955	Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux Review Conference: London, England

Commonwealth and Empire

MAF 33/654	1935	Conference of Empire Meteorologists: London, England
BT 61/58/1; CO 927; MAF 33/651	1936	British Commonwealth Scientific Conference: London, England
MAF 89/2	1938	British Empire Producers' Conference: Sydney, Australia

BT 11/2193, 2201, 2203, 2351-2352	1943	Post-War Commercial Policy (proposed): London, England
AVIA 2/2529	1944	Commonwealth and Empire Conference on Radio for Civil Aviation: Toronto and Ottawa, Canada
PREM 4/31/6	1945	Commonwealth Conference: London, England
CAB 133/35; CO 537/1422-1423 ; CO 937/3/2-4, CO 937/ 46/2-4	1945	Commonwealth Telecommunications Conference: London, England
CO 927; DO 35/1159/ O.528/42; MAF 33/653	1946	British Commonwealth Scientific Conference: London, England
CO 927/27/3*	1946	British Commonwealth Scientific Official Conference
* See also CO 927/28/3 1948-1949		
FO 370/1198	1946	Conference of Empire Meteorologists: London, England
PREM 8/753	1946	Informal Commonwealth Conference on Defence Science: London, England
FO 370/1198	1946	International Meteorological Conference: London, England
CAB 133/86	1946	Meeting of Prime Ministers: London, England
CAB 133/87	1946	Meeting of Prime Ministers' Committee on Nationality Questions: London, England
CAB 133/6	1947	British Commonwealth Conference on Nationality and Citizenship: United Kingdom
CAB 133/38-39	1947	British Commonwealth Talks, Western European Customs Union: Havana, Cuba
CAB 133/16	1947	Commonwealth talks on Japan Treaties: Canberra, Australia

FO 371/70203	1948	Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference: London, England
MAF 117/91	1948	Commonwealth Entomological Conference: London, England
CAB 133/88	1948	Meeting of Prime Ministers: London, England
CAB 133/41	1949	Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers: London, England
CAB 133/89-90	1949	Meeting of Prime Ministers: London, England
CAB 133/78-79; CO 537/5756- 5757; PREM 8/1149; T 236/1865, 2496-2499	1950	Colombo Conference (Commonwealth Meeting on Foreign Affairs): Colombo, Ceylon
T 236/2756	1950	Commonwealth Economic Conference: London, England
T 236/2665	1950	Commonwealth Finance Conference: Colombo, Ceylon
CAB 133/29	1950	Commonwealth Meeting on Oil: London, England
PREM 8/1344	1950	Commonwealth Wool Conference: London, England
WO 216/740	1951	Commonwealth Defence Ministers' Conference: London, England
BT 11/4743	1951	Commonwealth Standards Conference: London, England
CO 852/1076/2-3	1951	Conference on British Commonwealth Statisticians: Canberra, Australia
CAB 133/32-34; DO 121/132	1951	Meeting of Commonwealth Ministers concerned with Supply and Production: London, England
CAB 133/90	1951	Meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers: London, England

CO 852/1359/8- CO 852/1360/1	1951	Commonwealth Conference on Agricultural Co-operation
CAB 129/56-67	1952 Sept- Oct	Commonwealth Economic Conference: London, England
T 229/577-579; T 236/3362- 3366	1952 Dec	Ditto
CAB 133/125; CO 537/7834- 7837; T 236/3102, 3058, 3360	1952	Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference, London, England
CO 852/1191/3	1952	Sixth British Commonwealth Forestry Conference: Canada
CAB 133/135	1953	Meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers: London, England
CAB 133/126, 150; PREM 11/603; T 236/3373-3375, 3574-3590	1954 Jan	Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference: Sydney, Australia
CAB 133/150; PREM 11/603; T 236/3373-3375, 3574-3590	1954 Jan	Ditto: Australia
T 236/3595-3598	1954 Sept- Oct	Ditto: Washington, USA
CAB 133/101	1954	Sterling Area Balance of Payments Prospects Meeting of Commonwealth Officials: London England
MAF 117/402-403, 405	1955	Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux Review Conference: London, England
CO 1032/78-79	1955	Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference: London

CAB 133/139	1955	Sterling Area Balance of Payments Prospects Meeting of Commonwealth Officials: London, England
PREM 11/2069	1956	Study Conference on the Human Problems of Industrial Communities within the Commonwealth and Empire: Oxford, England
T 236/4369-4370	1957	Conference of Commonwealth Officials: London, England
T 236/4267-4270	1957	Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers: Ottawa, Canada
CAB 133/163	1957	Sterling Area Balance of Payments Prospects Meeting of Commonwealth Officials

Conservation

CAB 58/84	1931	International Congress for the Protection of Nature: Paris, France
CAB 58/86-90; CO 323/1234/11-13; CO 323/1235/1	1933	First International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa: London, England
CO 323/1272/1	1934	International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Asia (proposed)
CAB 58/93-94	1938	Second International Conference for the Protection of the Fauna and Flora of Africa: London, England
MAF 83/1684-1689; MAF 97/110	1946	International Whaling Conference: Washington, USA
MAF 117/68	1947	International Conference for the Protection of Nature: Brunnen, Switzerland
MAF 117/68	1948	Conference for the Establishment of the International Union for the Protection of Nature: Fontainebleau, France

FO 371/69130	1948	United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources
CO 847/41/3	1949	International Technical Conference on the Protection of Nature: USA
<u>Defence</u>		
AIR 2/1357	1933	Conference at Singapore: Singapore
WO 106/2067	1939	Baghdad Conference: Baghdad, Iraq
WO 201/317, 832	1939	Fort Lamy Conference (Franco-British conference to study Franco-British co-operation in Africa): Fort Lamy, Chad
WO 201/2045	1939	Franco-British Conferences at Aden: Aden, Egypt
AIR 23/1868; CAB 122/148	1941	Anglo-Dutch Australian Conference at Singapore: Singapore
CAB 99/17-18; PREM 3/458/1-8	1941-1942	Washington War Conference ('Arcadia'): Washington, USA
PREM 8/753	1946	Informal Commonwealth Conference on Defence Science: London, England
FO 371/84511-84513	1950	Bukit Serene Conference (concerns defence and economic development of countries in South-East Asia): Bukit Serene, Singapore
PREM 8/1340	1950	Conference on the Reorganization of Land Forces in East and Central Africa: Nairobi, Kenya
WO 216/405	1951	African Defence Facilities Conference: Nairobi, Kenya
FO 371/97357	1951	Anglo-American Conference on Defence Arrangements for the Greater Caribbean Area: USA
WO 206/740	1951	Commonwealth Defence Ministers' Conference: London, England

CO 537/6259	1951	International Conference on Defence Facilities in Africa: London, England
PREM 11/650-651	1954	Geneva Conference (defence of South-East Asia and South-West Pacific): Geneva, Switzerland
<u>Finance, Trade and Economics</u>		
CO 323/987/11	1927	International Conference for the Abolition of Import and Export Prohibitions and Restrictions: Geneva, Switzerland
BT 11/32; CO 323/970/1-2	1927	International Economic Conference: Geneva, Switzerland
CO 323/1233/1-10; MAF 40/10; T 160/447/ F13017/06; T 160/529/ F13017/028; T 172/1810-1816; T 188/50-56, 63-71	1933	World Monetary and Economic Conference: London, England
T 188/171	1937	International Chamber of Commerce Ninth Congress
BT 11/2193, 2201, 2203, 2351-2352	1943	Post-War Commercial Policy (proposed): London, England
CO 852/584/2-4	1944	United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference: Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, USA
CO 852/702/1- CO 852/703/2; MAF 40/232	c1946-c1948	International Conference on Trade and Employment: Geneva, Switzerland
T 247/83	1946	Savannah Conference on the Bretton Woods Final Act: Savannah, USA
CAB 133/38-39	1947	British Commonwealth Talks, Western European Customs Union: Havana, Cuba

CAB 133/27, GEN 195	1947	Sterling Area Conference: London, England
CO 537/1989, 2903; CO 852/539/3-4; PREM 8/1416	c1947-1948	United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment (Havana Conference): Havana, Cuba
BT 11/4021, 4290 Annecy,	1949	Annecy Conference (Trade Negotiations): France
CAB 133/41	1949	Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers: London, England
T 236/2756	1950	Commonwealth Economic Conference: London, England
T 236/2665	1950	Commonwealth Finance Conference: Colombo, Ceylon
CO 537/6986, 7646-7647	1951	Colonial Conference on the Technique of Development Finance: London, England
PREM 8/1416	1951	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Conference: Torquay, England
CAB 129/56-57; T 229/577-579; T 236/3365	1952	Commonwealth Economic Conference: London, England
CAB 133/125; CO 537/7834- 7837; T 236/3058 3360, 3102	1952	Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference: London, England
CAB 133/126, 150; T 236/3373-3375, 3574-3590; PREM 11/603	1954 Jan	Ditto: Sydney, Australia
CAB 133/150; T 236/3373-3375, 3574-3590	1954 Jan	Ditto: Australia

PREM 11/603; T 236/3595-3598	1954 Sept- Oct	Ditto: Washington, USA
CAB 133/101	1954	Sterling Area Balance of Payments Prospects Meeting of Commonwealth Officials: London, England
T 229/580	1954	Commonwealth Economic Conference
T 229/871	1955	World Economic Conference (proposed): Geneva, Switzerland
T 236/4267-4270	1957	Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers: Ottawa, Canada
CAB 133/163	1957	Sterling Area Balance of Payments Prospects Meeting of Commonwealth Officials

General

CO 1036		South Pacific Commission conferences
MAF 117/143	1948	International Entomological Congress: Stockholm, Sweden
CAB 133/143-147	1955	Malta Round Table Conference: London, England

Labour

CO 859		International Labour Conferences (eg CO 859/59/11, 1941-1942)
PREM 4/56/6	1944	International Labour Conference: Philadelphia, USA
PREM 4/94/9	1945	World Trade Union Conference: London, England
CO 852/702/1- CO 852/703/2; MAF 40/232	c1946-c1948	International Conference on Trade and Employment: Geneva, Switzerland
CO 537/2903; CO 852/539/3-4	c1947-1948	United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment (Havana Conference): Havana, Cuba

T 229/329	1949	International Labour Conference (concerns technical assistance to the colonies): Geneva, Switzerland
PREM 11/2069	1956	Study Conference on the Human Problems of Industrial Communities within the Commonwealth and Empire: Oxford, England

Middle East

WO 106/2067	1939	Baghdad Conference: Baghdad, Iraq
CAB 104/9	1939	Palestine Conference: London, England
CAB 133/85; CO 537/2325- 2327	1946-1947	Ditto
CO 537/6787	1952	Middle East Peace Conference: Cairo, Egypt

Research

MAF 40/4	1925-1932	International Institute of Agriculture, Conferences on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture
MAF 40/40	1926	International Congress of Foreign and Colonial Agronomy: Paris, France
CAB 58/35-36	1928	International Sleeping Sickness Conference: Paris, France
CO 822/18/7	1929-1930	International Education Conference: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
MAF 33/669	1929	International Society of Soil Science Conference
CO 323/1137/10	1929	Pan-African Agricultural and Veterinary Conference: Pretoria, South Africa
CO 323/1137/8	1931	International Congress of Tropical Agriculture: Paris, France
AY 11/47	1931	International Locust Conference: Rome, Italy

AY 11/47	1932	Ditto: Paris, France
CO 323/1309/11- CO 323/1310/2	1934	Ditto
CAB 58/91A-B	1934	Third International Conference on Locust Control: London, England
MAF 33/661	1935	Sixth International Botanical Congress: Amsterdam, The Netherlands
MAF 33/664	1935	Eleventh International Horticultural Congress: Rome, Italy
CO 927; MAF 33/651	1936	British Commonwealth Scientific Conference: London, England
AY 11/48-49; CAB 58/73, 92; CO 323/1309/11- CO 323/1310/3	1936	International Locust Conference: Cairo, Egypt
CO 323/1419/2	1937	Conference on the Education of People of African Origin: USA
CAB 58/83-85	1937	Seventh International Congress on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture: Paris, France
MAF 33/662	1937	Fourth International Grassland Conference: UK
MAF 33/670	1937	International Society of Soil Science Conference
AY 11/50; CO 323/1529/1; CO 323/7781/4	1938	International Locust Conference: Brussels, Belgium
MAF 83/666	1938	Seventh International Congress of Entomology: Berlin, Germany
CO 323/1465/8	1938	International Congress of Tropical Medicine and Malaria (proposed): Amsterdam, The Netherlands

CO 859/6/6	1938-1939	International Conference on the Educational Implications of the Changing Attitude of Europe to the Colonies: London, England
MAF 33/659	1939	Second International Congress of Rural Engineering: Madrid, Spain
CO 859/13/9	1939	Third International Congress on Microbiology: New York, USA
CAB 58/83-85; CO 323/1702/4 MAF 33/668	1939	Eighth International Congress on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture: Tripoli, Libya
CO 825/23/13	1940	World Opium Conference: Geneva, Switzerland
CAB 58/83-85	1941	Ninth International Congress on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture
CO 859/44/6	1942	United Nations Education Conference: London, England
DO 35/1159/ O.528/42; MAF 33/653	1946	British Commonwealth Scientific Conference: London, England
MAF 83/2186	1946	Singapore Conference on Nutrition: Singapore
CO 927/75/4	1947	Conference on African Anthropological and Linguistic Research: London, England
MAF 83/3090	1947	First International Federation of Agricultural Producers: Scheveningen, The Netherlands
CO 852/772/4	1947	International Geological Conference: UK
CO 927/31/2	1947	Pan-African Archaeological Conference: Nairobi, Kenya
CO 852/850/1-3	1947-1950	Fourth World Power Conference (Energy): London, England
CO 852/1010/1-3; CO 852/1052/3; CO 852/1223/4-5	1948	African Conference on Soils: Goma, Belgian Congo

CO 852/1228/7-8	1948	African Rinderpest Conference: Nairobi, Kenya
AY 3/106	1948	Seventh International Sericultural Congress: Arles, France
CO 859/230/1-5	1949	African Conference on Food and Nutrition: French Cameroons
CO 852/1011/1- CO 852/1012/1	1949-1952	African Land Utilization Conference: Jos, Nigeria
CO 927/24/1-CO 927/ 25/3; CO 927/124/ 6-7	1949	African Regional Scientific Conference (South African Scientific Conference): Johannesburg, South Africa
WO 32/13466	1949	Anti-Malaria Policy Conference: UK
CO 852/1224/1; CO 852/1226/5	1949	Inter-African Conference on Rural Indigenous Economy: Jos, Nigeria
CO 927/134/3- 4	1949	Seventh Pacific Science Conference: New Zealand
FO 371/69130	1948-1949	United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources
CO 927/151/3-5	1950-1952	International Migratory Locust Covention
CO 852/1231/1-4	1950	International Botanical Congress: Stockholm, Sweden
CO 927/148/7- CO 927/149/2	1950	International Locust Conference: New Delhi, India
CO 852/1077/7; CO 852/1078/1-2	1951	African Statistical Conference: Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia
CO 927/149	1951	Desert Locusts Conference: Cairo, Egypt
CO 852/1230/1	1951	International Conference on Cattle Diseases: Paris, France
CO 537/7051	1951	International Rubber Conference: Rome, Italy
CO 852/1228/5	1954	Inter-African Soils Conference: Leopoldville, Belgian Congo (proposed)

CO 927/378	1955	Commission for Africa South of the Sahara (CCTA) Conference on Social Sciences (Inter-African Conference on the Social Sciences): Bukavu, Congo
CO 859/868	1956-1957	Inter-African Conference on Nutrition: Luanda, Angola
CO 927/361	1956	Mapping of Population in Africa South of the Sahara: Brussels, Belgium

Socio-Economic Development and Technical Assistance

CO 537/2092	1947	Inter-Asian Relations Conference: New Delhi, India
CO 936/34/3	1949	Conference on Organization of Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara: UK
FO 371/84511-84513	1950	Bukit Serene Conference (concerns defence and economic development of countries in South-East Asia): Bukit Serene, Singapore
T 229/222	1950	Economic and Social Development in South and South-East Asia and the Far East (The Sydney Conference): Sydney, Australia

South-East Asia and Far East

AIR 2/1357	1933	Conference at Singapore: Singapore
AIR 23/1868; CAB 122/148	1941	Anglo-Dutch-Australian Conference at Singapore: Singapore
CAB 133/3	1947	Burma Conversations: London, England
MAF 97/2814	1947	South-East Asia Social Welfare Conference: Singapore
FO 371/69704	1948	Anglo-Netherlands Study Conference on South-East Asia: London, England

FO 371/84511-84513	1950	Bukit Serene Conference (concerns defence and economic development of countries in South-East Asia): Bukit Serene, Singapore
T 229/222	1950	Economic and Social Development in South and South-East Asia and the Far East (The Sydney Conference): Sydney, Australia
FO 371/84536	1950	Tripartite Ministerial Talks on South-East Asia Problems: New York, USA
CO 936/350; PREM 11/881	1954-1956	Afro-Asian Conference (Co-operation): Bandung, Indonesia
CO 1030/167	1954-1956	Conferences of United Kingdom Far East Representatives: Singapore
PREM 11/650-651	1954	Geneva Conference (defence of South-East Asia and South-West Pacific): Geneva, Switzerland
CO 1030/120-128	1956	Constitutional Conference on the Future of Singapore: London, England

Transport and Communications

HO 257		International Telecommunications Conferences
CO 937		World Telecommunications Conferences (International Telecommunications Conferences)
FO 371/12685	1927	League of Nations General Conference on Communications and Transit: Geneva, Switzerland
AIR 2/421	1928	International Shipping Conference: London, England
AVIA 2/503, 519 589	1932	Madrid Radio Conference: Madrid, Spain
CO 323/1274/9	1934	Postal Union Congress: Cairo, Egypt
CO 323/1499/11	1938	Eighth International Road Congress: The Hague, The Netherlands

AVIA 2/2153	1940	African Postal and Telecommunications Union Second Conference: Cape Town, South Africa
PREM 4/59	1944	International Air Conference: Chicago, USA
CO 937/2/3-CO 937/ 3/1	1945	Bermuda Telecommunications Conference: Bermuda
CAB 133/35; CO 537/1422- 1423; CO 937/3/2-4- CO 937/46/2-4	1945	Commonwealth Telecommunications Conference: London
CO 537/3258	1947	International Telecommunications Conference: Atlantic City, USA
CO 537/2026	1947	World Meteorological Convention
CO 875/32/3-4	1949	Conference at Mexico City to Allocate Light Frequencies between the World's Broadcasting Stations: Mexico
CO 937/157/3	1949	International Administrative Aeronautical Radio Conference: Geneva, Switzerland
CO 937/50/5	1949	World Road Conference: Geneva, Switzerland
T 236/2745	c1949-1950	Johannesburg Transport Conference: Johannesburg, Union of South Africa
CO 937/51/1	1950	International Railway Congress: Rome, Italy
CO 937/172/3	1951	Ninth International Road Congress: Lisbon, Portugal

United Nations

BT 11/2194; CAB 115; CO 852; MAF 83/495; MAF 97/2163 PREM 4/28/10	1943	United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture (also called Hot Springs Conference) (led to formation of FAO): Hot Springs, Virginia, USA
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CO 852/584/2-4	1944	United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference: Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, USA
CAB 133/82	1945	Conference between the Foreign Secretaries of the UK, the USA and USSR: Moscow, Soviet Union
CAB 120/184-185; CAB 122/604-605; FO 115/4192; MAF 97/2601; PREM 4/31/7	1945	San Francisco Conference (UN Conference on International Organization): San Francisco, USA
CAB 133/77	1945	First United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Conference
MAF 83; MAF 97		United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Conferences
CO 852/702/1- CO 852/703/2	c1946-c1948	International Conference on Trade and Employment: Geneva, Switzerland
MAF 83/3101	1947	International Cereals Conference (FAO): Paris, France
CO 537/2903; CO 852/539/3-4; PREM 8/1416	c1947-1948	United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment (Havana Conference): Havana, Cuba
FO 371/68396	1948	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Conference: Cairo, Egypt
CAB 134/401	1949	United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources: Lake Success, USA

Welfare

CO 323/973/12	1927	Conference for the Creation of an International Relief Union: Geneva, Switzerland
CO 825/12/3; CO 825/14/3-4	1931	Conference on the Suppression of Opium Smoking (Bangkok Opium Conference): Bangkok, Thailand

CO 847/6/7	1935	Pan-African Health Conference: Johannesburg, South Africa
PREM 4/51/3	1943	Bermuda Conference on the Refugee Problem: Bermuda
MAF 97/2814	1947	South-East Asia Social Welfare Conference: Singapore
CO 1028/12	c1952-1953	Conference of Voluntary Societies on the Welfare of Colonial Students in London: London, England
CO 1030/160	1954	Community Development Conference (Federation of Malaya): Taiping, Malaya

West Indies

AVIA 2/299	1929	First West Indies Conference: Barbados
MAF 97/1850	1941	Anglo-American Caribbean Commission Supply Officers Conference: Jamaica
FO 371/97357	1951	Anglo-American Conference on Defence Arrangements for the Greater Caribbean Area: USA
CO 1031/853	1952	Caribbean Fisheries Conference: Port of Spain, Trinidad
CO 1031/863-866	1952	West Indian Conference, Fifth Session: Jamaica
CO 1031/852	1953	Conference on Caribbean Timbers, their Utilization and Trade within the Area: Port of Spain, Trinidad
CAB 133/137	1956	British Caribbean Federation Conference: London, England

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