

COPY

RT. HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.

COMMISSIONER OF DEFENCE CONSTRUCTION

1. Mr James Fletcher to hold office as Commissioner of Defence Construction during the pleasure of the Prime Minister, and to act in accordance with all directions, general or special, given to him by the Prime Minister.
2. The general functions of the Commissioner shall be to organize and promote the undertaking of all defence works according to the importance thereof in the interests of defence, and for that purpose to determine the order of urgency thereof, and to ensure the supply of materials, plant, and labour for the prosecution of defence works according to the order of urgency laid down from time to time by the Commissioner.
3. For the purpose of exercising his functions, the Commissioner may give such directions as he thinks fit to any officers of the Public Service in relation to the exercise of any powers possessed by them, whether under any Act or regulations or otherwise, including any powers that may be delegated to them by any Minister or other authority.
4. In particular, the Commissioner may direct--
 - (a) That any constructional work (whether commenced by the Crown, any local authority or public body, or any other person) shall be stopped;
 - (b) That contracts for any defence works shall be let on such basis and on such terms as he thinks fit;
 - (c) That such labour and materials and plant as he thinks fit shall be made available for any defence works at such places and times as he thinks fit.
5. Subject only to any special direction to the contrary by the Prime Minister, it shall be the duty of all officers to carry out all such directions of the Commissioner, and their respective Ministers (where necessary) will authorize and direct them to do so, notwithstanding any previous decision or instruction to the contrary given by the Government or any other authority.

Approved.

P. B.
11/3/42