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Adjutant General

Frank A. Farrington, Deputy

Attorney General

Authority for Execution of Lease for Military Property

Reference is to your memorandum of April 30th concerning lease of the rifle range in Hallowell situated just west of W. H. Gennett property.

Section 1 of Chapter 308, P. L. 1939, approved June 27, 1940, amending Section 54 of Chapter 18, R. S. 1930, creates the State Military Defense Commission and provides in part as follows: "It shall be the duty of the commission to exercise general supervision and control over all armories, drill rooms, headquarters offices, stables, and state-owned or centrelled realty used for military purposes. . . The commission is further authorized and directed to cooperate with the federal government and/or municipalities in establishing and coordinating national defense in the State of Maine, especially in the provision of equipment, training facilities, suitable quarters for troops and supplies and buildings and lands for military purposes."

This provision of law gives the Military Defense Commission authority to lease the land in question to the Federal Government for military purposes. A vote of the Commission directing one or more of its members to execute the lease on behalf of the Commission would be proper. You and the Governor are ex officio members of this Commission.

Frank A. Farrington
Deputy Attorney General

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