

D29285

The primary task and responsibility of the people of Canada is the defence and security of Canada.

The Minister of National Defence defined these needs in this House on February 17, 1937 (Debates, p. 892) when he stated:

National security, national defence, the direct defence of Canada, of our coastal areas, our ports, our shipping terminals, our territorial waters, the focal areas of our trade routes adjacent to our harbour mouths - these are the matters dealt with in these estimates.

This involves, in the first instance, military measures of defence. I have already outlined the steps which have been taken to safeguard the situation by calling out the Active Militia and the Naval and Air Forces. Further measures will be taken in the directions where the need proves most imperative.

Again, we must provide for internal security, and guard against sabotage, disturbance of vital military and economic establishments, and against hostile propaganda.

~~There is~~ ^{must be considered} A wide measure of economic defence measures. The outbreak of war involves a tremendous upheaval both in international and in internal trade. It involves the re-direction of many energies - the intensification of some forms of effort, the reduction of those less vitally necessary. It involves vigilant action to furnish the necessary financial