

We naturally compare our forces from the point of view of efficiency, state of equipment and training with those of other countries and with those of our own country at previous periods.

Last year 45 per cent of the Navy was at sea, a very high proportion indeed, higher than we had during the Second World War.

Today in the Canadian Army we have the equipment in operational formations of well over a division. That constitutes a very good proportion of the total, particularly when it is considered that we have to maintain the administrative, training and communications staffs to serve a country of our size.

In the Air Force, a test is the number of hours or miles flown per aircraft or per man and there again the performance stacks up well.

This is a very large-scale operation.

To all of us it is the most important operation we are engaged on. It aims at the preservation of peace and freedom through the united strength of the freedom-loving nations.