

DAILY AIRMAIL BULLETIN

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Mr. St. Laurent Urges Youth To Join Armed Forces: Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, January 20 (CP) -- The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, officially opening a million-dollar armoury in this Northern Ontario industrial city, has appealed to young Canadians to join the armed forces. He urged them to "go active" if possible, otherwise to enlist in reserve units.

The armoury, the first built in Canada since the end of the Second World War, will be headquarters for military forces guarding the steel-producing community of 32,500 persons and the great ship canal locks through which freighters loaded with wheat or iron ore pass from Lake Superior to Lake Huron.

Buildings and equipment are important in strengthening Canada's defences, Mr. St. Laurent said. In addition, men--and women, too--were required.

"Not only must we, as a member of the (North Atlantic) Alliance, devote a large proportion of our annual national production to military requirements, but we need a steady flow of young men to join the armed forces. We also need young men, who cannot serve full time, to spend part of their time for Canada in the reserve forces. Our experience in two world wars has shown the inestimable value of the reserve forces and I hope every encouragement will be given to young men of this and other communities to join a reserve unit if they cannot become members of one of the services on a full-time basis."

Canada-U.S. Atlantic Exercise: Ottawa, January 20 (CP) -- Two Canadian air squadrons are linking up with the United States Atlantic Fleet tomorrow for a three-week cold-weather exercise in which warships and planes will make mock warfare in the Northwest Atlantic. The R.C.A.F. announced today the two squadrons are Maritime squadrons, flying Lancasters, and will operate out of their base at Greenwood, Nova Scotia.

The exercise is called Micowex 52 and "is designed to increase combat readiness and familiarize personnel with operations in frigid climatic conditions." It will also, the announcement said, allow the U.S. fleet units to test their latest cold-weather weapons, equipment and clothing. The man in charge is Admiral Lynde D. McCormick, head of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet and the man rumoured likely to get the job of Atlantic Pact naval commander in the Atlantic.

North Atlantic Naval Commander: Ottawa, January 18 (CP) -- Naval officials said today Canada is "quite content" with the Churchill-Truman agreement on appointment of an American as Atlantic Pact naval commander in the North Atlantic. One effect of the decision is that in time of war it would fit Canada's major naval effort into a battle pattern directed by that man. In the last war, there was no such 'Eisenhower of the Atlantic.'

It has been indicated authoritatively that the R.C.N. will be assigned operational responsibility for a huge area of the Northwest Atlantic, possibly from the Canadian seaboard to Iceland, under the over-all command. That is, the R.C.N. would direct all operations in that area just as in the war the First Canadian Army commander directed all operations in a certain area in Western Europe under Gen. Eisenhower's over-all direction.

A high Navy official said, in commenting on the Washington announcement that the months-long Anglo-American argument over the Atlantic command has been settled, that the main thing was to get some sort of a decision in the stalemate and that had finally been achieved. For that reason alone, Canada was pleased.