

NATO Prospects

The role of Canada in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has now been determined in consultation with the other eleven nations. Canada intends to do everything necessary to carry out that role. The programme put forward here includes everything necessary to do that.

We are approaching this common effort in the same spirit as our other partners. We believe that if we all do as much as we can we will be able to build up the strength necessary to deter aggression or defeat an enemy. In ground forces or in the air this strength has still to be built up, but there are other important factors which count in the balance when nations come to weigh their chances, including the atomic bomb and the ability to deliver it.

General Eisenhower had this to say:

In military potential, the free nations have everything they need - natural resources, industrial genius, productive capacity, and great reservoirs of leadership ability. Given the ingredient of morale - the determination to combine for mutual protection - the military strength necessary will be produced at a speedy pace. With every increase in strength, there will be an upward thrust in morale, an ever mounting spiral of confidence and security.

Plans and facilities for rapid mobilization

The third objective of our defence efforts is to have the administrative staff, the training establishments, the nucleus of trained officers and n.c.o.'s, the supply depots and everything else needed for mobilization.

Because this has been set down as one of the objectives of our national defence, there have been references to what others have called "the nuclear theory of defence". There isn't any such theory. In every country, the full potential fighting strength of the nation is developed only if war begins.

The Canadian forces have today mobilization plans and administrative and training staffs, supply depots, arms and a good many of the things needed for rapid mobilization.

Equipment

This report indicates something of the size of the equipment programme now under way and gaining momentum from day to day.

To meet these requirements a new department of the government, the Department of Defence Production, is being proposed. In the first nine months of the present fiscal year, which ended on December 31, 1950, 80,000 orders were actually placed with industry. During this period orders have been placed with the Department of Trade and Commerce for the sum of \$701 million.

The main items are:

Aircraft, \$331 million; ships, \$96 million; radar and wireless, \$50 million; clothing and textiles, \$35 million;