

JOINT DEFENCE

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In this connection, control planning will take into account the preservation of the canals and locks facilities on the St. Lawrence Seaway. It will also be necessary to develop measures aimed at preventing, as far as possible, the blocking of canals and narrow channels by sunken ships.

"Expert knowledge in railway operation will also be required in the event of war. The principal task of governments in this respect will be to guide the railways in the development of plans for the preservation of railway equipment. For instance, it will likely be necessary to evacuate railway equipment from target areas as soon as warning is received. Moreover, bomb damage may cut the railway system in a number of vital places. An important part of the strategic position which must be assumed could possibly involve construction or extension of sidings in localities clear of target cities and also construction of belt lines joining together the lines radiating from major cities to enable railway communication to be maintained after bomb damage has occurred. In other words, we must be prepared to take action to protect railway equipment and put surviving railway facilities to work on priority tasks.

"During World War II we realized the essential role that road transportation played in the defence of this continent. One example

which I might cite was the construction and use of the Alaska Highway. In any future war our road transport systems will be vital to our security.

"There has been a great deal of progress and co-operation in understanding the mutual problems between our countries regarding the necessity of preparedness in the field of transportation.

"There have been regular exchange visits between transportation representatives of the Office of Civil and Defence Mobilization and Canadian Civil Defence authorities together with attendance at each other's transportation forums and study groups.

"I have only touched on some of the problems involved in defence preparedness in the transportation field. Looking at the overall picture of mutual defence we must all agree that the collaboration which has existed between our countries during the past two decades has indeed been great. There are, and in all likelihood, there will continue to be some weak points in the structure of our partnership but in no sense do they threaten the strength of our unity.

"The aims of the United States and Canada - the ideals of the American and Canadian peoples are by tradition basically the same and it is hoped that they will remain so. I trust that in our relations with each other on this North American Continent we will see the development of even greater strength and still more confident mutual understanding within this unique association of our two nations."

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VISIT OF MEXICAN PRESIDENT

President Adolfo Lopez Mateos, first Mexican head of state to visit this country, paid a 2½ day official visit to Canada last week.

On arrival in Ottawa, President Mateos, his wife and his daughter, Miss Eva Lopez Mateos Samano, were greeted by Governor-General Vanier and Mrs. Vanier, Prime Minister and Mrs. Diefenbaker, External Affairs Minister Howard Green and Mrs. Green and the Mexican Ambassador, Rafael de la Colina, and his wife.

During his visit, the President, who was a guest at Government House, placed a wreath on the National War Memorial, called on the Hon. Mark Drouin, Speaker of the Senate, and Mrs. Drouin, signed the distinguished visitors' book in the Senate and the House of Commons, and visited the Memorial Chamber and the Parliamentary Library. He also visited Ot-

tawa's City Hall, where Mayor George Nelms and Mrs. Nelms greeted him and his party. He was introduced to City Council members and signed the distinguished visitors' book.

Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Mrs. Vanier gave a dinner and reception for the distinguished visitors.

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NORWEGIAN VISITOR

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Mr. H.E. Halvard Lange, visited Ottawa from October 13 to 15, at the invitation of the Minister, Mr. Howard C. Green. While in Ottawa, Mr. Lange was received by Governor-General Vanier and conferred with the Prime Minister, Mr. John G. Diefenbaker and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard C. Green. Mr. Lange visited the Parliamentary Press Gallery on Wednesday, October 14.

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