

To the Members of Canada's Armed Forces:

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At this season of the year, it is my privilege to send to each of you, on behalf of all Canadians, a message which truly represents the united voice of every man, woman and child in Canada. It is a message of Christmas greeting and of good wishes for the New Year to the members of Canada's armed forces wherever they are serving.

For this, the fifth Christmas of the war, such a message is more full of meaning than any since the war began. It is doubly significant because it bears as well the hope and confidence that the happiness which all wish you, may soon be realized in victory over our enemies.

We all regret that so many of you are unable to share this season with your families. You, however, will be glad to know that Canada's pride in your achievements and in your spirit will lend its glow to the Christmas season throughout our land.

To some of you in the forefront of battle, our wishes for "a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" may appear an empty phrase. In truth, however, it is but another way we are taking to tell you of the gratitude that is in all our hearts, and of what we hold for you of affectionate remembrance at this season of the year.

W. L. Mackenzie King,
Prime Minister.