waging offensive warfare. The Axis powers are, everywhere,
on the defensive. As the session closes, at the beginning
of a new year, the skies are brighter than they have been
at any time since the outbreak of the war.

The fighting men of Canada, representing all
services, have continued to guard the world's citadel of
freedom. They have joined their forces with others, at sea,
in the air, and on land, against the Axis powers, in Europe,
in Africa, and in the Middle East, and in the farthest parts
of an embattled world. They have kept vigil over our own
shores, both West and East. The combined reconnaisance in
force undertaken at Dieppe has added that name to the
imperishable list of the battle honours of Canada.

Our country gratefully remembers, in all the
fighting forces, and in all parts of the world, those whose
lives have been given in its service, and in the cause of
freedom.

The gravity of the situation in Europe and Asia,
the entry of the United States into the war, and the
appearance of enemy submarines in our coastal waters, in
the Pacific as well as in the Atlantic, brought home to all
our citizens a fuller appreciation of the dangers of the
world conflict. The dangers themselves occasioned more
extensive cooperation between the United States and Canada
in the defence of the Western Hemisphere. Canadian and
American forces have shared operations in Alaska and the
Aleutians, as they previously had in Newfoundland, along
our Eastern Coast, and in the North Atlantic. The chain of
military airfields constructed by Canada between the United
States and Alaska has been supplemented by the military highway
constructed by the United States. There has also been
co-operative development of northern air routes to Europe
and Asia.