

Nine of the regular squadrons in Canada are fighter squadrons equipped with long range, all-weather CF-100 jet fighters. In addition, there are in Canada's regular air force three maritime squadrons, four transport squadrons and one photographic squadron.

And, of course, each of the three services is supported by its reserve components. I can assure you that no effort has been spared in making these forces the very best that human ingenuity and patriotic devotion can achieve.

Canada has always been an active member of the United Nations, which has as its primary aim the preservation of peace.

Under the aegis of the United Nations in Korea Canadian service men, through dedicated service and sacrifice, helped to clearly demonstrate that aggression can be halted by collective action. In the Korean conflict which added such lustre to Canada's military record, some twenty-seven thousand Canadians served in Korea during the period of active hostilities, of whom three hundred and twelve made the supreme sacrifice and twelve hundred were wounded in action.

Canada is a charter member and has always been a constant supporter of the North Atlantic alliance.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was born out of the threat to peace in Europe during the late 1940's at a time when the Soviet Union was seizing control of nation after nation, one by one. NATO originated and remains a great and constructive experiment in international relations, designed to provide security on a collective basis. Under the treaty, pursuant to a very simple covenant, an attack upon one or more of the NATO members in Europe or North America will be regarded as an attack upon all. No longer will it be possible for an aggressor to pick the free nations off one by one.

Almost everything Canada is doing in the realm of defence constitutes an integral part of NATO's great co-operative effort.

The build up of our forces at home, the provision of an infantry brigade group and 12 squadrons of fighter craft in Europe, our contribution to the cost of providing airfields, pipelines, communication and the like in Europe -- known by the horrible name of infrastructure -- our provision of mutual aid in the form of military equipment to the extent of almost one and a quarter billions of dollars, including our NATO air training scheme for training aircrew for our allies -- nearly 4,000 have been trained already -- all of these represent substantial and effective contributions to the strength being developed by the NATO countries.