

50,000 and Field Marshal Montgomery is calling for volunteers to bring it up to 150,000. Today the strength of our reserve army is about 35,000 and we are calling for volunteers to bring it up to . . . well, as many as we can get. We are not placing final ceilings on the number of officers, N.C.O.s. and men in any individual unit. We are setting targets. If the unit meets the target in one respect then consideration will be given to raising the target. We want to have an organization which is sufficiently flexible to take account of the different stages of organization and different local conditions which will enable one unit to succeed in one respect and another unit somewhere else to succeed in another way or at a later date.

As you know, there have been a great many improvements in the conditions of training and service in the reserve since the war.

Physical, educational and professional qualifications are being set as high as those in the regular forces and the same conditions of service, uniform, rank badges, pay and so on, so as to eliminate every difference to the end that all regard themselves as members of one team with the title, earned and glorified by action in Western Europe, "The Canadian Army". The only difference is that some men are part time and some are full time. Both are serving Canada, both are working and training to be ready to meet any emergency that may arise.

Another difference between the situation today and what it was in 1939 is that today reserve army units have quantities of the most modern equipment. They have tanks and guns and radar sets and all the other complicated and expensive paraphernalia of modern war. What is more, we have more of it in mobilization stores, representing hundreds of millions of dollars of the finest work of Canadian and American and British workmen. It is being taken good care of. When it is considered necessary it is overhauled and modified to bring it up to date. When it becomes obsolete, we sell it or scrap it if there is anything better to take its place. Here again there is nothing static in the outlook. We are working with others constantly to exchange views as to improvements and developments.

We are trying to create conditions of service that put the armed forces on an equal or better footing with men having correspondingly high educational qualifications in civilian life.

In so far as they are applicable, these changes are extended to reserve army personnel.

Let us look at some of these:

Our pension plans is unquestionably the most generous in the world.

Pay and Allowances were revised in 1946 and again in 1948 to take account of changes in the cost of living and are under constant examination.

Our forces have as good clothing as any we know. A summer uniform, corresponding to the Air Force tropical worsted, will be supplied to the Army as soon as it can be manufactured.

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