

Thus, the capacity for endurance has become a prime consideration and we must be very careful to guard against overstrain, whether it be in our military organization or in our social, economic or industrial fabric.

It is a happy circumstance that Canada and the United States, as two countries of North America, have come to realize the great interests which they hold in common; after the experience of two world wars, our peoples have learned the necessity for close co-operation in defence. We have learned also that the habit of co-operation is one which grows in intimacy with practice and so today, as we look out at a deeply troubled world, we can say not only do we understand one another's assessment of the dangers but our views are in close accord as to how the various contingencies should be provided for.

Most fortunately, I think, the leaders of our governments, and of public opinion, both in Canada and in the United States, have clearly recognized that an insular military defence, even if continental in scope and however elaborate, is by itself not enough to make us safe. On the contrary, to be effective our military plans must be supported in the economic, the social and the moral spheres, and all these measures must be amplified by association with like-minded nations elsewhere who believe with us in the fundamental principles of Democracy and in the freedom of the individual in contradistinction to the pagan tenets of Soviet Communism which have submerged so many fine peoples under the crushing heel of totalitarian despotism.

Every nation which has gone down before the onset of Soviet Communism is not only a loss to us but a gain to the dark forces which oppose us. In consequence, not the least of our endeavours, in our own interest as well as that of common charity must be to put an end to this process of engulfment of peoples. It is only by generous help to others in distress and in need and by the extension of our own endeavours that we can hope to solve the problems of our own defence and gain that enduring security we seek.

In the study of military defence it is most important to realize the very remarkable progress which has come about, particularly since the close of World War I in the application of science and engineering to war. Today, for those who are suitably prepared and equipped, distance has largely lost its former attenuating effect on the conduct of military operations. We must remember not only that continents are now within aircraft range of one another but that, with every new development, already shrunken space continues to shrink still further. Thus we have now become closer to Europe, both in terms of the reinforcements we can give to our friends and also in relation to the repercussions on this continent which would be the consequence of any enemy success there. We have become closer to Europe both in terms of the magnitude on which military operations might be conducted and also as regards the reduction of the time elements involved.

We have to contemplate the possibility of aircraft at supersonic speed and intercontinental radius of action, of guided missiles of great range; of the application of virulent bacteriological and chemical poisons; and most important, of Uranium and perhaps of Hydrogen atomic bombs of catastrophic power. We must realize that already these forms of bombardment may be rapidly followed up by considerable forces; airborne or seaborne in special types of vessels capable of landing on beaches without the use of established ports. Moreover these airborne and