

In the nine-month period which ended December 31, 1950, 80,000 orders for defence equipment worth \$701 million were placed.

Defence research in Canada emphasizing particularly anti-submarine equipment, anti-tank weapons, and wireless equipment has been correspondingly increased.

Orders have been placed already this year for \$113 million worth of construction.

Personnel in the services and civilian personnel in defence work have increased by 67 per cent in the past three years; during the next three years the number of service personnel should be increased to about 115,000 and the number of civilian personnel in related activities to about 33,000.

Forty regular and reserve squadrons, including those destined for European service, with 3,000 aircraft additional to those Canada now has, are planned.

The three-year programme outlined will involve the expenditure in all matters of the defence of Canada and our participation in the common effort of over \$5 billions; next year about \$1,600 million will be required.

The programme and the plans outlined are all subject to change as the world situation changes.

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Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson) have given us the government's view of the present situation and set out the objectives of our country and the prospects for peace. In their endeavours in this connection, as well as in their statements, I feel sure that I voice the views of all hon. members of this house, of all the people of this country as well as a great number of peoples of other countries, when I say that in all those endeavours they made to maintain and preserve peace they had our strong united support.

Our purpose is peace, and it is for this purpose only that the government think it right to recommend to this house and to the country these further measures to increase the state of preparedness of ourselves and our allies.

The Canadian government's defence programme put before you tonight results directly from the world situation. That programme is intended to provide, as Canada's part of an effective deterrent against aggression, what is considered necessary at this time for the defence of Canada against attack and to carry out Canada's undertakings under the charter of the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty to the full.