

If I had the time or the inclination I could present to you an elaborate set of figures comparing defence expenditures in Canada with those in the United States. But I am going to leave such an exercise to the statisticians. Besides, I sometimes think these comparisons do more harm than good. There are elements in the defensive strength of any country that cannot be reckoned in the simple arithmetic of government expenditures.

Canada has never shirked its responsibilities. We fully expect to carry a fair share of the sacrifices and costs of defence. On a per capita basis we shall probably carry more than many of our allies.

What we are trying to do here in Canada is to make the most effective use that can be made of the manpower and resources at our disposal. That is the guiding principle behind the Canadian defence effort. We are concentrating our efforts, as far as possible, upon doing those things which will add maximum strength to the defences of North America, of NATO and of the United Nations. That is the only policy that makes sense for Canada or, for that matter, for any country threatened with aggression in the modern world.

Canada's defence effort is a many-sided effort. I have spoken of military plans and accomplishments in Korea, in the defence of North America and in co-operation with NATO.

We are bringing into production the great variety of modern weapons needed for the armed services and for their support. Our emphasis upon air defence has made it necessary for us to build extensive facilities for the training of airmen not only for the Royal Canadian Air Force but also for the airmen of other NATO countries. In the field of aircraft construction we are building two types of jet fighter planes that we believe are the most efficient being built anywhere. We are also producing trainer planes, some of which will be used in the United States. We are coming into production with a jet engine suitable for our fighter planes and with a radial engine that will power our trainer planes. We have a very large radar programme in hand. Our shipyards are busy building fast escort vessels and minesweepers. Our largest gun plant of the last war has a programme in hand of naval guns and field artillery, partly for the United States. Our six arsenals are turning out small arms and ammunition.

But there is another side to Canada's defence effort. In our view, preparedness is not simply a matter of turning out, as quickly as possible, the maximum quantity of weapons and ammunition, or of putting the maximum number of men under arms. It is something far bigger and far more difficult.

The object of these preparations is not war. Rather it is to build up the collective strength of the free world so that the potential aggressor will not risk war. There must be available the forces and the material to withstand the shock of sudden and early attack. There must also be the reserves of power upon which to depend in the struggle for victory.

In Canada therefore we are concentrating a great deal of effort upon building up our fundamental economic strength. The evidence of this is not to be found, in the main, in government expenditures upon defence. Rather it is to be found in the plans and projects of basic Canadian industry. For example, whereas Government expenditure for defence production will total about one billion dollars this fiscal