

ing the ability of the strategic air command of the United States to deliver the A and H bombs, that ability being an essential ingredient in the capacity for massive retaliation.

"Fifth, the economic and financial considerations involved in defence planning today are going to become steadily more important. Not that they have not been important throughout, but a steady drive must be kept up and maintained to achieve the greatest possible economy in terms of men and money. This means that in our planning we cannot afford to make mistakes, because if you start out to develop a new aircraft you may be in for an expenditure of \$125 million before you have a second aircraft off the line. Consequently, everything must be done having regard to the long term effort, and it must be done in the closest possible co-operation with our allies, particularly Britain and the United States. There I am happy to say that we have the closest working co-operation, not only with those two countries but with every country in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

PERSONNEL

"Sixth, and this is perhaps the most important of all, in defence operation, possibly more than in any other operation mankind has to undertake, that operation must depend on the quality of the personnel, the quality of the leadership, and the quality of the men. We have been fortunate in having officers and men of good quality, but with the increasing complexity of weapons, the necessity for insisting on a high standard and getting it becomes even more urgent and important than ever before. So as we face the challenges of 'the long pull', not the least important of these challenges is to find ways and means of maintaining the alertness, the professional skills, ambitions, and physical and mental abilities of the officers and men in our armed forces.

"This becomes, as has been found in the United States where special studies have been made of it, a matter of their continuing to have the confidence and the respect of the civilian population. This is a matter of the utmost importance if we are to maintain the strength of our armed forces; and that is something to which I believe they are entitled, by their records of service and by their records as civilians, judged by any standard you like. Their crime records are considerably lower than those for corresponding groups in civilian life; and that is as it should be.

"Seventh and finally, this whole operation of facing the 'long pull' under the threat of a war of total destruction requires stout hearts and a really great degree of understanding on the part of the civilian people. The 'Canadian Unionist' published by the Canadian Congress of Labour in April, 1954, had this to say apropos of the H-bomb.

"The task of the individual, in spite of the threat of world destruction is, in Carlyle's words, 'to do the task which lies nearest to hand', and, in the present circumstances, this means that we must simply do our work as well as we can, and let it go at that. We must try to be guided by the lessons of experience and the dictates of reason."

"If we apply that statement to the national and defence fields, it is obvious that there is no ground for despair or discouragement or for doing nothing. It is obvious that we must continue to follow what we and the other nations have agreed is the right course in order to preserve peace and to maintain our security. But the A-bomb and the H-bomb force the nations of the world to try to find means of ensuring that they will never be used. It has been said that war is a failure in foreign policy; and foreign policy - understanding between nations - has become of greater importance and greater urgency than ever before in the history of mankind. From time to time specific problems occupy the international stage, as we have seen at Geneva over Indo-China. This crisis or that fills the headlines and the newscasts but no particular crisis should outweigh the preservation of the great alliance of the free world which is the fundamental bulwark of our own security."

CONTINENTAL DEFENCE

Speaking on continental defence and its protective radar system, Mr. Claxton said earlier in his address:

"A good many hon. members visited St. Hubert R.C.A.F. station this session and saw there the air defence command headquarters for Canada. That command is operational today 24 hours a day. It receives intelligence of every aircraft coming under surveillance at any one of the radar stations. That aircraft is identified either as a friendly aircraft because it has filed a flight plan, because of its characteristics, or because we see it, or is not identified - in which event the fighters are scrambled and carry out an interception.

"Just last week at a radar station not far from here I saw interceptions carried out from the control room of the radar station to which had been hooked up the telephones of the pilots, of fighter command, of the radar operators, and of the plotters. These were hooked up to loudspeakers so that from the station we could hear the whole battle being carried out, and within a very few minutes the interceptions were successfully completed.

"This system, as planned between the United States and Canada, is now more than 90 per cent complete and operational. These interceptions are carried out daily, night and day, in operations against B-36's and B-47 jets which have come over on simulated raids without the knowledge of the stations. The percentage of kills as they were counted in these exercises was extraordinarily high compared