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MILITARY SECURITY - THE NATION'S LIFE INSURANCE

In an address to the Montreal United Services Institute on February 10, the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Douglas S. Harkness, observed that he had just completed a tour of defence establishments in the United States and Canada, during which he had visited the headquarters of the North American Air Defence Command at Colorado Springs, the Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, and RCAF stations at Cold Lake and Namao, Alberta. "I intend," he went on, "to say a few words to you tonight about some of the thoughts which have been prompted by my visit to these important defence centres."

The body of Mr. Harkness's speech follows in part:

"...It has often seemed to me that to sell a security programme year after year is a particularly difficult task, for in a way it is like trying to persuade a healthy man to buy enough life insurance. We know that a certain amount of life insurance is necessary - it is something that everyone should have; however, it is always difficult to dig down deep in our pockets year after year and come up willingly with the money that is needed for adequate coverage...

"When the defence picture is undergoing so many changes so rapidly, it is a good thing to return to first principles and ask ourselves why we are supporting this rather large defence machine. Basically, the free nations must engage in what could almost be described as a total defence in order to counter the

continuing threat posed by the hostile Communist regimes. There is no use trying to ignore the fact that this threat includes the determination of the Sino-Soviet bloc to achieve world domination. This could be done by either military means or by such non-military means as diplomacy, economic penetration, propaganda and subversion. Surely we all recognize now, from events that have taken place during the past 15 years, that the Communist threat is not solely military, and that the other elements are equally dangerous to our security. This is why I prefer to talk in terms of a security programme rather than of a defence programme.

"I wish to emphasize that the Government deals with our total security through a number of departments and agencies, such as the Prime Minister's Office, National Defence, External Affairs, Trade and Commerce, National Health and Welfare, Finance and the Department of Justice, to which the RCMP reports...

MILITARY THREAT

"Let there be no mistake about the importance of the military threat to our security. It consists of a substantial Soviet nuclear capability made up of manned bombers and missiles, the submarine menace, and the large conventional forces of both the Soviet and Chinese-Communist regimes. Another element of the threat is the promotion and support by the Communist regimes of subversive elements within free societies and the use by the Com-

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