

I have taken the time to give this outline of some of our plans because you want to know what is being done, and there is of course much more that I could tell. From time to time suggestions as to other courses are made. As you can imagine virtually every suggestion by the press or by various organizations has been considered by National Defence or some other agency of the government long before it was made.

If we did everything for our defence that has been suggested by well-intended people it is perfectly evident that the civilian life of the country would stop, which would neither help the defence of Canada nor the recovery of Britain and Western Europe.

During the last year and a half I have visited practically every establishment and seen most of the men. You have met some of them from the three Services yesterday and today. I know that you will agree that they are serious and capable people, keen on doing an essential job as well as they can. Their effectiveness rests on your support. This public support depends above everything else on good morale. Whatever lies ahead will require clear thinking and stout hearts. Your intelligent and determined assistance provides us not only with material aid but equally important, with understanding support and warm encouragement. The defence of Canada is not just a job for the armed forces but for all the people of Canada.

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