

with the United States forces under the closely integrated North American Air Defence Command. Even allowing a moderate ICBM numerical superiority during the next three years the conclusion reached by those who have analyzed this matter is that even a surprise attack by all the missiles the Soviet could muster would not suffice to knock out enough of the SAC bomber and missile bases to justify the Russians making a rational decision to attack.

"As President Eisenhower pointed out, the substantial progress being made in ballistic missile technology is rapidly shifting the main threat from manned bombers to missiles. However, a threat from the manned bomber still remains and Canada takes the appropriate measures in defence against such a threat.

CANADA'S ROLE IN EUROPE

"To ensure the continued strength of the NATO shield in Europe, it is essential that we contribute to that shield. The presence of Canadian servicemen and equipment in Europe not only adds to the effectiveness of the shield but it is also further evidence of the importance we attach to the defence of the European area of NATO. At the present time under NATO command in Europe Canada has stationed twelve squadrons of interceptor aircraft with our air division, which is composed of more than 5,000 RCAF personnel. It was announced last July that it was intended to equip eight of these squadrons with the CF-104 strike reconnaissance aircraft. This aircraft has also been chosen by West Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium. Stationed in Germany is a Canadian Infantry Brigade Group made up of 5,500 men. The role of this Brigade Group is to assist in the protection of Western Europe by delaying any advance that might be made by enemy ground forces.

"As long as the threat of attack against this continent exists, the Government feels that it is only prudent to institute measures for survival which may have to be adopted should our other efforts fail to prevent war. With this in mind the Regular and Reserve Forces have been organized for survival operations. All defence forces which are not actively engaged in repelling the attack will be trained and ready to take active measures to assist survival.

"Present plans call for the employment of Army forces in survival operations in mobile units which would be self-contained for limited periods. Our military authorities have, therefore, been instructed to form as many of these units as possible from the Regular as well as the Reserve Army. In an emergency these mobile groups will be capable of entering contaminated areas to rescue the injured and at the same time these groups will also assist in the maintenance of law and order.

"Training for survival operations will be part of normal service training and wherever possible the Services will participate in local civil defence exercises. All Army forces assigned to survival operations will be completely equipped with appropriate military and survival equipment but in addition substantial assistance from civilian sources will be necessary.

"You will be interested to know that orders have already been placed for sufficient light-rescue equipment and radiac instruments for the mobile units and sufficient quantities for training have now been delivered to our forces. By the end of this year most of the radiac and all light-rescue items will be available to meet both training as well as operational needs. Some of the communication and specialist equipment not available from normal stocks will be bought in 1960 and, of course, as survival planning continues to develop, the need for additional equipment may become evident.

WARNING SYSTEMS

"A National Survival Attack Warning System commenced operations at the beginning of last September on a permanently manned, around-the-clock basis. Canadian warning officers are now on duty at key NORAD active air-defence centres, the federal capital and at provincial warning centres in each province. Dissemination of alerts to the general public and to the forces will be by siren signals coupled with radio broadcasts over networks in the provinces. In carrying out the task of giving warning to the public in the smaller centres of population, the assistance of local police, fire services and other provincial and municipal bodies will be necessary. In such circumstances, the overall responsibility will continue to be vested in the Army, with these additional agencies acting on behalf of the Department of National Defence.

"It is the intention of the Government to expand the siren network within the provinces and to provide alternate means of communication to those now in being, to ensure the availability of the means of warning the public in an emergency. Provision of a system to locate nuclear detonations, assess their effects and give warning of fallout to the public presents a problem of considerable magnitude. The resources of the Army and those of the other Services combined cannot provide the personnel necessary for such an undertaking. Co-operation will be necessary on the part of federal government departments, provincial and municipal agencies and volunteer and civilian commercial elements to provide an effective system. The National Survival Attack Warning System as established will provide a major part of the communications needed for reporting nuclear explosions and fallout patterns.