

As an example of defence co-operation and production-sharing an agreement between Canada and the United States has recently been entered into, whereby:-

- (a) the RCAF will take over 16 stations of the Pinetree radar line, which have hitherto been the responsibility of the United States;
- (b) the Canadian squadrons assigned to NORAD will be provided with 66 aircraft of the F-101B type;
- (c) the two countries will jointly finance procurement in Canada of a significant number of F-104G aircraft for our NATO partners.

This agreement provides further evidence of the determination of both countries to maintain the operational effectiveness of the North American air defence system, and will make an important contribution to the security of North America and to the European area of NATO as well.

More than that, it expresses a mutual desire to make common use of those resources which each possesses and which can be made available for the benefit of each other and all partners in NATO in the pursuit of peace.

Neutralist Lullabies Ineffectual

It is sometimes contended by a vociferous minority that Canada should withdraw from her defence commitments. I have no ear for the lullabies of the neutralist - neither have the overwhelming majority of Canadians. Indeed, until such time as an effective international disarmament agreement has been negotiated we must continue to maintain and perfect our defences.

Canada's record in two world wars, when freedom was at stake, gives the answer to the neutralist contentions. Canada voluntarily and of her own free will declared war - in August 1914, and again in September 1939. One hundred thousand Canadians made the supreme sacrifice, and to have an understanding of the degree of Canada's sacrifice in the First Great War, although Canada's population was less than 8.5 million, the number of Canadians who made the supreme sacrifice exceeded in number those in the forces of the United States.

A Dark Horizon

The world horizon is once again darkened by signs of Communist threats and intransigence. In Laos the Communists profess to support neutrality and independence but are making it difficult for the International Commission to secure these objectives. In the Congo and South Vietnam they endeavour to weaken international action.