

proximity to Continental Europe -- may very well be inapplicable to a federal state like Canada with its vast territory, its long lines of communications, its severe weather, its scattered population, and its small number of large cities, situated, as they are, several thousand miles from the land bases of any potential enemy.

### Some Highlights of the Federal Programme

I have dealt with the role of the Federal Government in providing advance warning of enemy attack. Now let me list a few further federal activities to indicate the way in which we are attempting to give guidance and assistance to provincial and municipal authorities in the development of realistic and responsible plans for the defence of our civilian population.

-- A federal Civil Defence College, which will shortly move to more adequate quarters, is now in full operation and is training 1,500 key workers and instructors each year. These persons, in turn, pass on this training to many thousands at the provincial and local levels.

-- Over 70,000 respirators and substantial quantities of helmets, anti-gas suits, and other protective clothing, together with a smaller quantity of radiation detection instruments, have been issued to the provinces for the use of civil defence workers.

-- 50 self-propelled, fully-equipped fire engines are being provided to the provinces at a cost of more than \$600,000.

-- Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario have taken advantage of the federal offer to pay one-third of the cost of standardizing fire hose-couplings. Commitments have already been made for federal expenditures of some \$500,000 under this programme.

-- Since 1952, federal grants of \$1,400,000 a year have been available, on a matching basis, for approved provincial civil defence projects. As yet only the four Western provinces and Newfoundland have taken advantage of this federal offer.

-- The Federal Government has also entered into agreements with the provinces to share the expense of providing compensation for injury to civil defence workers.

-- Detailed plans are being worked out for the active support of civil defence by the Armed Forces under arrangements similar to those where the Armed Forces support civilian authorities in cases of national disaster.

-- Over a million copies of various manuals, pamphlets and other literature have been distributed and a vigorous program of public education through press, radio, billboards, exhibits and films is in progress.