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CONTENTS

How Canada Will Defend Itself	1
Population Increase in 1959	3
Regional Price Indexes	3
Columbia River Statement	3
Iron Ore in 1959	3
New Saigon Commissioner	4
Big Alberta Water Project	4
Iterm Wheat Payment	4

Honour Canadian Savant	5
Commonwealth Guests	5
Trade Envoy, to Canberra	5
Top Orchestras for Stratford	5
Air Services School	6
Fire Losses Lower in 1959	6
Marine Commissary Course	6

HOW CANADA WILL DEFEND ITSELF

In a speech to No. 306 Wing, the RCAF Association, in Montreal on February 17, Defence Minister Pearkes had the following to say about "Canada's place in the defence picture":

"...In the report on defence which was issued last April, it was stated that Canada's defence policy derives directly from our foreign policy and is designed to ensure national security and the preservation of world peace. The threat to our national security, and indeed the security of the entire free world, is not only military. It is also political, economic and psychological. To cope successfully with this total threat Canada must have a total strategy within which all elements--the military, the political, the economic and the psychological--are closely co-ordinated and in proper balance.

"We have adopted the principle of collective security as a basic tenet of our foreign policy. We no longer think in terms of our national defence alone but rather in terms of the total defence capabilities of the free world. Our strategy, therefore, requires that we sustain and strengthen the integrity of our alliances and contribute our fair share of forces to these alliances.

"We have dedicated ourselves, in conjunction with our allies, to continue our unremitting search for lasting, sincere disarmament and for a lessening of international tensions. But until tangible and enforceable

arms reductions are worked out, no matter how earnest our quest for guaranteed peace, we must retain our military effectiveness while we are negotiating the issue of arms reductions.

"It was stated very clearly in the White Paper last year that in order to meet our military objectives the defence policy of Canada is to provide forces for:

- (a) the defence against an attack on the North American continent; (b) the collective defence and deterrent forces of NATO in Europe and the North Atlantic;
- (c) the United Nations, to assist that organization in attaining its peaceful aims.

"The very existence of Canada's armed forces is primarily to aid in preventing a would-be aggressor from starting war. Once this concept of the task of our armed forces can be grasped the rest of the defence picture falls into place.

"In Canada our main contribution at the present time to the deterrent strength of the free world is made by assisting in the protection of the retaliatory forces based on the North American continent. To this end we have established in our country an air defence network consisting of early warning lines and interceptor squadrons. Plans are under way for the introduction of ground-to-air missiles for defence against the manned bomber. Our defence forces work in intimate collaboration