

Reserve Forces

One of the most important developments in respect to the reserve forces has been the appointment to Canadian Forces Headquarters of Major-General W.A.B. Anderson as Deputy Chief, Reserves. General Anderson will, in fact, be the commander of the reserve forces in Canada and have the responsibility for their organization and training in support of the regular forces as well as in aid of the civil power and their supplementary role in national survival. The Deputy Chief, Reserves, heads a sub-branch at Headquarters, which is being organized on an integrated basis and which will have full responsibility for the reserve components and cadets of the Navy, Army and Air Force.

The first task to be undertaken by this section is the reorganization of its field-command structure for reserve units following the termination of the existing army regional and district commands. The appointment of an officer in the rank of major-general underlines the continued importance of the reserve forces in support of the regular forces.

With the reorganization of the Canadian Army Militia last year and the re-introduction of corps training, a new vigour and effectiveness is developing. It is intended to increase the momentum by improved training opportunities in the coming year. Where possible, militia units will be given an opportunity to visit regular units at home stations for the purpose of obtaining instruction and practice in using the latest items of operational equipment. Recently, militiamen of several Eastern Canadian armoured regiments were flown into Camp Gagetown, where the Royal Canadian Dragoons conducted a programme of weekend training for them. The experiment was extremely successful and will be used as a pattern for similar exercises of this nature in the future.

The reserves, in their new posture, are being counted upon to make an important contribution to Canada's security. The volunteers to whom this task has been entrusted are worthy of our highest respect and admiration.

I would like now to discuss briefly some of the changes in management techniques which have been introduced into the Department since 1963 in conjunction with the reorganization.

Two of the most important problems in defence management were the reconciliation of the programmes of the three services, that is, the setting of the real priorities between the programmes of each, and gauging the effects of each programme, not just in terms of capital cost but also in terms of support requirements, personnel and annual recurring costs.

The integration of Navy, Army and Air Force Headquarters aided materially in the solution of the first of these problems. An integrated defence programme has been established. This displays all approved national defence activities and forecasts spending over the current year and the following five-year period. The programme data relate the various military functions and missions to resource requirements of manpower, money and materiel. With this information available, it is possible to determine at once the implications, both on a particular mission and on the integrated defence programme as a whole, of any new requirement.