

The government of the day doubted whether, in the circumstances, at the outbreak of the war of 1914, it could be said that these overseas contingents were fighting for the defence of Canada, within the meaning of the Militia Act.

Later, when they adopted compulsory service for overseas, they did not use the Militia Act, but brought in a new act -- the Military Service Act.

Whatever may have been the circumstances in 1914 -- it is certainly arguable today, in the circumstances of the present war, that service overseas is a part of the defence of Canada.