

theatre. Now that victory in Europe has been achieved, it will be possible for Canada's war producing and manufacturing capacity to be turned full force against the Japanese. While shipments of Mutual Aid supplies for use against the Japanese have been made for more than two years and have been increasing during that time, the need for supplies of munitions and special types of equipment for the Pacific war is now greater than ever. During the forthcoming year, Canadian Mutual Aid shipments to the Pacific theatre will be greatly increased.

Even while Canadian military action and production were being concentrated on Germany, Canadian engineers and scientists were working on equipment and products that could be used against Japan. Canadian laboratories and factories have developed several pieces of equipment specifically for the Japanese war. Canadians were among the first to design a certain type of radar set that is suitable for tropical conditions.

Australia and New Zealand in their geographically isolated positions in the south Pacific have been forced to a large extent to depend on Lend-Lease and Mutual Aid to enable them to help fight the European enemy as well as Japan. Canada has shared in their task by training their airmen in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan schools across this country, by shipping military vehicles, munitions, aircraft, parts, lumber and many other vital materials for their war production. While direct Mutual Aid shipments to India have been confined to wheat and military vehicles, much of the material made available to the United Kingdom has gone to British and Indian forces fighting the Japanese. Thus long before Canadian units encounter the Japanese, maple leaf-stamped Canadian equipment has found its way into the jungles of Burma, the islands of the south Pacific and into the heart of China.

One of the most important aspects of this Mutual Aid help has been transportation. Canada has built up a merchant navy for shipping goods to all parts of the world. Most of the supplies sent to Australia, New Zealand, India and China have been carried by Canadian-owned and operated merchant vessels - this shipping paid for by Mutual Aid.

AUSTRALIA

During 1945-46 Mutual Aid shipments to Australia will be greatly increased. Last year value of the war supplies and services provided Australia by Canada in this way more than doubled the 1943-44 figure of \$20,959,845. The actual Mutual Aid agreement between Canada and Australia was signed on March 9, 1944, but Mutual Aid shipments were being sent before the formalities were concluded.

Through its Mutual Aid supplies Canada has helped make possible the hard-fought Australian campaigns in the Solomons and New Britain, New Guinea and North Borneo. One of the major items has been the stream of trucks that have gone to Australian fighting forces and also to help facilitate transportation within the country. In addition to transport and automotive equipment, Canada is sending guns and small arms, shells and ammunition, aircraft and ships. The ships are lent for the duration of the war.

Other major items on the Mutual Aid list for Australia include aluminum and component parts for aircraft, chemicals for munitions, tool steel and mechanical equipment for many types of war industry in Australia, asbestos and timber for scores of construction jobs, electrical apparatus for communications, radar stations for Australian forces, fertilizer for food production - anything which Canada is able to supply to help the Australian war effort either directly (munitions for the fighting men) or indirectly (equipment and materials for war industry and production).

Canada has also extended services to Australia under Mutual Aid. Thousands of airmen have received their training in Canada under Mutual Aid, and supplies are transported to Australia by Canadian ships as a Mutual Aid service.

NEW ZEALAND

Most of the Mutual Aid supplies sent to New Zealand from Canada have been aircraft and vehicles and their component parts, and communications equipment to help the army and air force fight the Japanese.