

It is expected that enemy bombs are designed with "dead-man" fuzes. These fuzes permit the bombs to detonate on impact even though the aircraft or other device which is carrying them has been shot down in flames or has disintegrated in the air. There is, therefore, considerable advantage in the use of nuclear air defence warheads, which will kill the weapon and not just the carrier.

In all, there are more than 40 regular fighter-interceptor squadrons in the NORAD system, of which five are the recently re-equipped RCAF CF-101B squadrons. The CF-101B "Voodoo" aircraft are designed to carry both conventional and atomic air-to-air missiles. At present the Canadian squadrons are armed with the conventional missiles only. The advantages of having atomic missiles available are obvious, since the "kill" capacity of the "Genie" atomic rocket is several times greater than that of the conventional "Falcon" rocket.

The bilateral agreement now being negotiated with the United States will permit the stockpiling in Canada of nuclear devices to be immediately available in an emergency. It should be remembered that these weapons are purely defensive. They do not constitute a threat to other nations. NORAD forces go into defensive action only after absolute proof is established that the North American continent is under attack by aggressor forces.

Another point, the "Voodoo" interceptors would not be flying round during day-to-day operations with nuclear rockets aboard. Normal training and operational interceptions would be done, as they are by the USAF, with aircraft equipped with high explosive -- not atomic -- rockets.

The nuclear-equipped Canadian interceptors would only take off under the authority of the Canadian Government subsequent to the release of the weapons themselves by the President of the United States. Similarly, the "Bomarc" could not be fired without the prior approval of both the U.S. and the Canadian Governments. And, I repeat, both weapons systems would only be put into action if North America was under attack.

United Nations

It is an important aspect of Canadian defence and foreign policy to support the peace-keeping operations of the United Nations. Apart from UN action in Korea, Canada, over the years, has undertaken a number of military commitments to the United Nations. In November 1956, the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East was formed to secure and supervise the cessation of hostilities between Israel and Egypt. Since the inception of this force, Canada has made a major contribution of Canadian Army personnel and has furnished an air-transport unit operated by the RCAF. At the present time, there are over 800 members of the Canadian Army and some 80 RCAF personnel serving in UNEF. It should be noted here that we recently agreed to contribute to the