

In the field of defence, Canada has begun the process of reshaping its armed services to meet the tasks they are likely to be called upon to perform in the next ten to twenty years.

The Minister of National Defence has used somewhat similar language. Both these gentlemen have better knowledge than average mortals of what is going to happen in the next 10 to 20 years and we have to be very careful when we deal with their statements, but I would ask you this: From your experience of warfare in the Second World War, Korea, from your study of what is going on in the world and all the international crises that have sprung up in the last 25 years, and what is going on now in Viet Nam, do you see—other than the change in superior weapons, perhaps—any marked change in the task that a navy would be asked to perform during the next 10 to 20 years? Will there be some fundamental change that would then require this alteration to a single service?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: No sir, I do not see any fundamental change in the foreseeable future for naval forces of the type we have. Both major Communist navies have submarines; both of them will have the capability of placing missiles off our coasts. I would have thought that the need to demonstrate that we can control those situations in the sea area will remain, certainly, for 20 years.

Mr. CHURCHILL: I have just one final question. If I asked the Minister for External Affairs whether he is prepared to meet with you, and Admiral Brock and some of the other senior officers who have been purged by Mr. Hellyer, would you be prepared to meet him and discuss the future with regard to Canada's defence forces?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: Of course.

Mr. CHURCHILL: Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Forrestall?

Mr. FORRESTALL: Admiral, all of the letters I have had from various officers and men in the service, with one exception, tended to express grave concern and doubts about their future in the armed services. As a matter of fact, a good many of them have indicated to me in their letters that they were seriously considering removing themselves from the service, notwithstanding the losses that might be incurred. I wonder, in your capacity as Commander, Maritime Command and senior naval officer on the Atlantic coast, whether you could tell the Committee whether or not there was widespread unrest documented, for example, by your telling us whether or not any of these officers or men, or both, approached you seeking advice on what they should do about their careers?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: Yes a large number of them came to see me to seek advice and are still coming to me to seek advice.

Mr. FORRESTALL: You say "a large number". Would that be 10 or 15, 20, 30?

Rear Admiral LANDYMORE: Directly, I would say of the order of 50 or 60 and indirectly, perhaps as many as 100 or more. I have not combed my correspondence but I, like you, have had hundreds of letters from serving people on these matters. It would be unlikely that too many people would approach me in this regard, because you will remember the brief which I sent to you. A great number of officers promised me personally that they would not retire from the