

supports these commitments as providing maximum security for the manpower and financial resources contributed. The Committee recommends a continued emphasis on the standardization of equipment and the co-ordination of research and development within NATO.

Air Defence

6. Your Committee noted that the bomber threat against the North American continent is substantial and the expectation that, during the next few years, it would continue to be so, although diminishing in scale. Provision has been made in the estimates to improve the defences against this threat through a joint program with the United States providing the Bomarc surface-to-air missile, strengthening and adding to the Pine Tree radar control system and providing SAGE electronic control and computing equipment. In view of the opinion expressed by the Minister that the period of effectiveness of the CF-100 is limited, the Committee hopes that an early decision can be taken as to the advisability of obtaining a replacement for this aircraft.

Civil Defence Role

7. Your Committee examined in detail the progress the Canadian Army has made in carrying out its assigned role in survival operations. Your Committee is of the opinion that further consideration should be given to the problem of co-ordination of the army's efforts with those of civilian defence workers. Also, there should be considered the question of the establishment of a straight line chain of authority in Civil Defence.

Nuclear Defence Weapons

8. The question of nuclear warheads was considered at some length by your Committee. It noted that certain defence weapons are being acquired which have nuclear capabilities. Some of these defence weapons, according to the present schedule, will be delivered commencing late in 1961. In his evidence to the Committee the Minister expressed the opinion that arrangements now being negotiated would make nuclear warheads available if and when required.

Manpower

9. Your Committee noted the Minister's conclusions that the present strength of the armed forces of Canada must be maintained if they are to fulfil the commitments assigned to them, and concurs in this view. It also encourages the continuing efforts to reduce civilian and administrative personnel to the most economic and efficient level, and notes the reduction from the 1956-57 figure of 54,371 to a current figure of 49,637.

Integration and Recruiting of Services

10. Your Committee is aware that certain steps have been taken by the three component parts of the armed forces to merge a limited number of parallel services, e.g., the dental and medical services. It feels that a more concerted effort should be made to extend this process. The Committee welcomed the Minister's assurance that studies are under way with a view to further reducing the costs of recruiting. It urges the Minister to intensify his efforts toward the establishment of a fully integrated recruiting system for the three services.