

THE SENATE

Thursday, October 18, 1951

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING

MESSAGE OF THANKS TO THE SENATE

The Hon. the Speaker: I would ask honourable senators to rise.

(The senators rose and stood in their places.)

The Hon. the Speaker: In conformity with the wishes of honourable members, I addressed a cablegram to the Private Secretary of His Majesty the King, conveying to His Majesty, with our respectful duty and our loyal devotion, the expression of our gratification at his constant progress towards recovery, and our sincere good wishes.

I now have the honour to inform you that I have received a cablegram from His Majesty the King, which reads as follows:

The Speaker of the Senate of Canada,
Ottawa.

Please convey to the Senate of Canada my sincere thanks for their kind and loyal message of good wishes, which I much appreciate.

GEORGE R.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY

CANADIAN FORCES IN EUROPE

Before the Orders of the Day:

Hon. Mr. Robertson: Honourable senators, I beg to lay on the table certain miscellaneous documents, the titles of which will appear in our records. One of the documents is of such importance that I think I should read it to the house. It is Order in Council P.C. 5598, dated October 18, 1951, giving authority for the maintenance on active service of officers and men of the Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force. It reads as follows:

His Excellency the Governor General in Council:

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty was entered into for the purpose of preserving peace by building up the strength necessary to deter aggression, and, to assist in this purpose, it was decided to form an Integrated Force in Western Europe;

And whereas an Integrated Force is now being established under the Supreme Command of General Eisenhower;

And whereas, at the last session of Parliament it was announced that elements of the Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force were to form part of this Integrated Force and provision was made for the appropriate expansion of the Army and Air Force;

And whereas a Canadian Infantry Brigade Group has been raised and has reached the state of training where it may properly be dispatched to form part of the Integrated Force, and Air Force squadrons are being progressively formed, equipped and

trained to build up an air division in the Integrated Force, but pending the provision of airfield and other accommodation some of these are to be stationed in the United Kingdom;

Therefore, His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of National Defence, is pleased, hereby, to make the following order:

Order

In furtherance of Canada's undertakings under the North Atlantic Treaty, authority is hereby given for the maintenance on active service of officers and men of the Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Air Force, not exceeding 12,000 in number, as part of, or in the United Kingdom in readiness to form part of, the Integrated Force under the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.

Honourable senators, I hope to be able to give notice, later at this sitting, of a resolution, for consideration tomorrow, authorizing Canada's participation in these defence forces.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY

The Senate resumed from Tuesday, October 16, consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session and the motion of Hon. Mr. Vien for an Address in reply thereto.

Hon. John T. Haig: Honourable members, I wish to join with the previous speakers in saying how happy I am, and all Canadians are, to hear of the good progress the King is making in his return to health.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Haig: The King is a symbol of the unity of the Empire, and he offers to the world at large a wonderful example of true family life.

I am delighted, as I am sure all honourable senators are, with the reception that Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth and her consort the Duke of Edinburgh are receiving in Canada. I make no distinction as between cities, for the reception everywhere has been one of most genuine warmth. Her Royal Highness has yet to visit Canada's largest city, and I am of the opinion that there she will receive the most enthusiastic reception of all. I am sure also that the Maritimes and Newfoundland, in their welcome to our royal visitors, will come up to the high standard set elsewhere in Canada.

The response on the part of Canadian people has so far been just what I had expected of them. For instance, I was quite sure that, in my home city of Winnipeg, there would be 200,000 people on the street, and I did not think there would be enough policemen in Canada to hold back the crowd. I am happy to say that notwithstanding the wild enthusiasm, there is no possible danger