

The Canadian Forces in the Future

Sub-committee's Recommendations

The Minister of National Defence and senior officers recently indicated that they are now giving priority to manpower, following a long period when it was necessary to focus on re-equipment. The Sub-committee supports this policy and proposes that some additional manpower should be added to the armed forces beyond the levels now planned. The entire defence structure should also be made more combat-effective. Canada simply does not have enough combat personnel or modern combat equipment at present in relation to commitments and the overall size of the armed forces.

Based on the analysis contained in the previous chapters of the present report, the Sub-committee believes that the strength of the Regular Force, once shortages have been made up, should be increased in two stages, as follows:

Stage I — 1985

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| Currently identified requirement | 83,400 |
| Augmentation of Canadian Forces Europe | <u>2,400</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>85,800</u> |

Stage II — 1987

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|---|---------------|
| Increase in Canadian Forces Europe | 2,000 |
| Increase in Mobile Command (to cover rotational needs of the extra troops in Europe and take over some of CAST's internal duties) | <u>4,000</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>91,800</u> |

The target should be a total of about 92,000 men and women by 1987.

Meanwhile, the Reserves should be improved and strengthened as suggested in the chapters on overall manning levels and the manning of the commands. The Militia, Naval Reserve, Air Reserve, Communication Reserve and Rangers should receive additional equipment and other resources. The Supplementary Reserve should be completely overhauled and increased in numbers. Other reserve formations such as a small Standing Reserve Force and a Ready Reserve should also be considered.