

# CHAPTER XXVII.—DEFENCE OF CANADA\*

## CONSPECTUS

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NOTE.—The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.

### Section 1.—The Department of National Defence

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1950, the strength of all three branches of the Armed Forces was substantially increased, elements of each were committed for duty according to the United Nations Charter, and the program of organizing and training extensive reserve forces was continued.

Under a single Minister, charged with responsibility for all matters relating to defence, the Department continued a policy which included: (1) the adoption of a unified defence program to meet agreed strategic needs; (2) a single defence budget under which funds and resources would be allocated in accordance with the program; (3) the elimination of duplication of services; (4) consistent and equitable personnel policies; (5) greater emphasis on defence research and closer co-ordination with other government departments and with war industry.

Under direction of the Minister, Service command is exercised by the heads of the Services concerned.

In 1949-50 progress of the new defence organization was primarily along administrative lines, in keeping with an ever-changing international situation. Co-operation with other nations in matters of defence became increasingly effective. In all matters of international defence relations, the first aim of Canadian policy was to prevent war.

The amalgamation of the three Departments and the co-ordination of the three Services began with the establishment of a single National Defence Headquarters at Ottawa. Within this Headquarters, allied components of the Navy, Army and Air Force were interwoven wherever compatible with the interests of efficiency and economy.

Councils and committees that now function with direct relation to the Department of National Defence and the unification program include:—

- (1) **Defence Council.**—*Composition*—Minister of National Defence (Chairman), Parliamentary Assistant, Deputy Minister Associate Deputy Ministers (two), Service Chiefs of Staff and Chairman of Defence Research Board. *Object*—advising the Minister with regard to administrative matters of inter-Service concern affecting the Department as a whole or otherwise.
- (2) **Chiefs of Staff Committee.**—*Composition*—Service Chiefs of Staff (three), Chairman of Defence Research Board and, when matters of general interest are under consideration, the Deputy Minister, the Under

\* This Chapter, with the exception of the material on the Industrial Defence Board, was revised under the direction of C. M. Drury, C.B.E., D.S.O., Deputy Minister, Department of National Defence, Ottawa