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Canada's War Record

June 1, 1941

Travellers who cross the Canada-United States border often desire information about Canada's part in the war. The following facts may be found useful in answering questions.

1. Canada entered the war after full and free debate and entirely of her own volition on September 10, 1939.

2. Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen serving in British Isles..... 80,000

Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen enlisted for service anywhere for duration of war and at present in Canada, in Canadian waters or in North American outposts..... 170,000

Total on active service..... 250,000

Reserve Army trained for home defence..... 170,000

Total at home and abroad..... 420,000

3. Number of men to be added to Active Army, Navy and Air Force by March, 1942.. 116,000

Number of men to be added for home defence by March, 1942.....About 40,000

Total at home and abroad by March, 1942
About 576,000

4. During 1941 Canada will despatch overseas the 3rd Canadian division, an armoured corps, a tank brigade and other troops; increasing numbers of airmen, about 2,500 radio technicians, and naval units and reinforcements.

5. There are more than ten times as many people in the United States as there are in Canada. In terms of potential manpower, Canada's 250,000 on active service would be equivalent to a strength of about 2,750,000 in the United States Army, Navy and Air Force—without taking account of a reserve army for home defence.

6. The Canadian Navy has more than 200 vessels of all types, many of which are serving around the British Isles and elsewhere overseas. By March, 1942, it will have about 400 ships of all types.

7. The Canadian Navy has convoyed ships carrying more than 27,000,000 deadweight tons and has captured several enemy vessels. Canadians in the R.C.A.F. and in the R.A.F. have shot down about 200 enemy planes.

8. More than 800 Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen are now listed as killed or missing. Many Canadians have been decorated or mentioned in despatches.

9. Soldiers, sailors and airmen guard Canada's coasts and outposts. Guns and both naval and air bases are located at strategic points. Canada is co-operating fully with the United States in hemisphere defence.

10. The British Commonwealth Air Training Plan operates 62 schools out of 83 planned for September of this year. It has over 80 establishments of all kinds and operates about 100 air fields. Twice as many air fighters as originally planned for this time have been turned out, and a very large number have already arrived in Britain. One thousand radio technicians have arrived in Britain from Canada.

The estimated cost of the Air Training Plan is now \$824,000,000, of which amount Canada's share will be \$531,000,000. Canada provides 80 per cent of the students, and of this number it was recently estimated that between 7 per cent and 10 per cent are Americans.

11. Supplies which Canada has so far sent to Britain include foodstuffs, raw materials, shells, various types of army vehicle, machine guns, explosives and chemicals, gun barrels, aeroplanes, corvettes and minesweepers. The value of such products to be sent to Britain during the present fiscal year (April 1, 1941, to March 31, 1942) will be about \$1,500,000,000.

12. Between the outbreak of war and March 31, 1941, Canada provided Great Britain with more than \$500,000,000 to help her finance her war purchases. By March 31, 1942, Canada will have provided Britain with nearly \$1,000,000,000 more for the same purpose.

13. War materials now being made in Canada include corvettes, minesweepers, many types of small naval vessel, aeroplanes, machine guns, one type of field gun, mortars, explosives and chemicals, shells, small arms ammunition, various types of army vehicle, parachutes, gas masks, anti-gas clothing, special wireless equipment, naval stores, aerial bombs and rifle grenades, and tanks.

Articles soon to be built include naval guns, several types of field gun, depth charges, and anti-tank mines.

14. Canada produces large quantities of essential foodstuffs and raw materials—wheat, dairy products, pork and other meat products, eggs and other important foodstuffs; timber, iron and steel, nickel, aluminum, zinc, copper, lead and other metals and materials vital to modern war.

15. War equipment which Canada is able to export to the United States includes certain types of small arms, some guns and ammunition, certain explosives and chemicals, certain armed fighting vehicles, corvettes

and minesweepers, aluminum and certain other metals and materials. There are in addition certain types of clothing and textiles, certain leather, rubber and timber products and certain secret devices in which Canada could probably make an important contribution if these were desired.

16. In the present fiscal year Canadians will spend about 40 per cent of their total national income for war. It is estimated that the national income of Canada in the present fiscal year will be about \$5,950,000,000, while the national income of the United States is expected to be more than \$80,000,000,000. In terms of purchasing power, the amount which Canadians will spend for war in the present fiscal year would be equivalent to an expenditure in the United States for defence and Lend-Lease aid to Britain of over \$30,000,000,000.

Including the money required to meet the ordinary expenses of municipal, provincial and Federal government, the amount with which Canadians will have to provide their governments in the present fiscal year will amount to over half the national income. This would be equivalent to an expenditure in the United States of over \$40,000,000,000 for the same purposes.

17. In the present fiscal year Canada's purchases in the United States will approximate \$950,000,000—nearly twice as much as in the year 1939. Nearly half this amount will purchase war supplies.

18. American tourists can come to Canada and return as easily as in peace time. In Canada they will enjoy a 10 per cent premium on their money and will be able to move about freely.

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