

THE WELLAND CANAL IS STRONGLY GUARDED

Authorities Do Not Fear Attack---Guards Are Armed---10,000 Troops Could Be Rushed to the Scene in Short Order.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—People who might become excited over the arrest of two German secret service agents in New York, following the exposure of a plot to blow up the Welland Canal, can let their minds rest easy.

They need not worry about any successful raid being carried out by our enemies or small raiding parties who might come over from the States and make an attack on the canal, or along the Niagara River and frontier.

Elaborate and adequate precautions have been taken by the authorities to prevent an organized raid on the canal, and other vulnerable points along the border. Since the war a strong armed guard has been on duty patrolling the canal and frontier, of sufficient strength to cope with any emergency that might arise. So perfect are the arrangements made by the authorities that

in case of sudden raid or sudden attack over 10,000 troops could be rushed to the scene within two hours.

Guards On Duty

Troops can be shipped from Toronto and Hamilton on short notice, with arms and ammunition. Besides a strong guard on the canal and border Lieut.-Col. Rose, 98th Battalion, has nearly a battalion at Welland. There are two battalions at Hamilton besides the Mounted Rifles depot. At Exhibition camp strings of cars are on the siding and could be used to carry troops to any scene, and the whole camp could be entrained and despatched to Niagara in three hours.

Lieut.-Col. H. C. Bickford, general staff officer of the division, made a tour of inspection of the frontier guard last week and reported everything adequate to meet any exigency.