

In Canada's view, the time has come for *An Agenda for Peace, Part Two*, which will elaborate in more detail the contribution that the multilateral arms control and disarmament fora can make to building a new cooperative security framework. An essential aspect of this review will be the role of the Office of Disarmament Affairs as the focal point for a revitalized UN role in multilateral arms control and disarmament. We urge all members of the First Committee to consider how they might contribute to this end.

Unfortunately we do not have the lux-

ury of unlimited time for reflection. As the demand for UN peacekeeping missions only too clearly shows — as we speak the UN has over 40,000 men and women currently serving in 12 UN peacekeeping operations in Central America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Africa, and nearly 10,000 more are preparing to go to Bosnia, Somalia and Mozambique — the need for progress in creating a new framework of international security is in

danger of completely outstripping our capacity to respond.

Let us therefore ensure that the deliberations of this Committee over the coming

Need for revitalized UN role in arms control and disarmament.

weeks reflect the need for prompt and concrete actions in our shared task of peace-building. ■

Arms Register Panel Reports to UN

The Panel of Governmental Technical Experts, charged with elaborating procedures for reporting to the UN arms register, has arrived at a consensus report that recommends adjustments to the categories of weapons to be reported and details procedures for the register's operation, including a standardized reporting form.

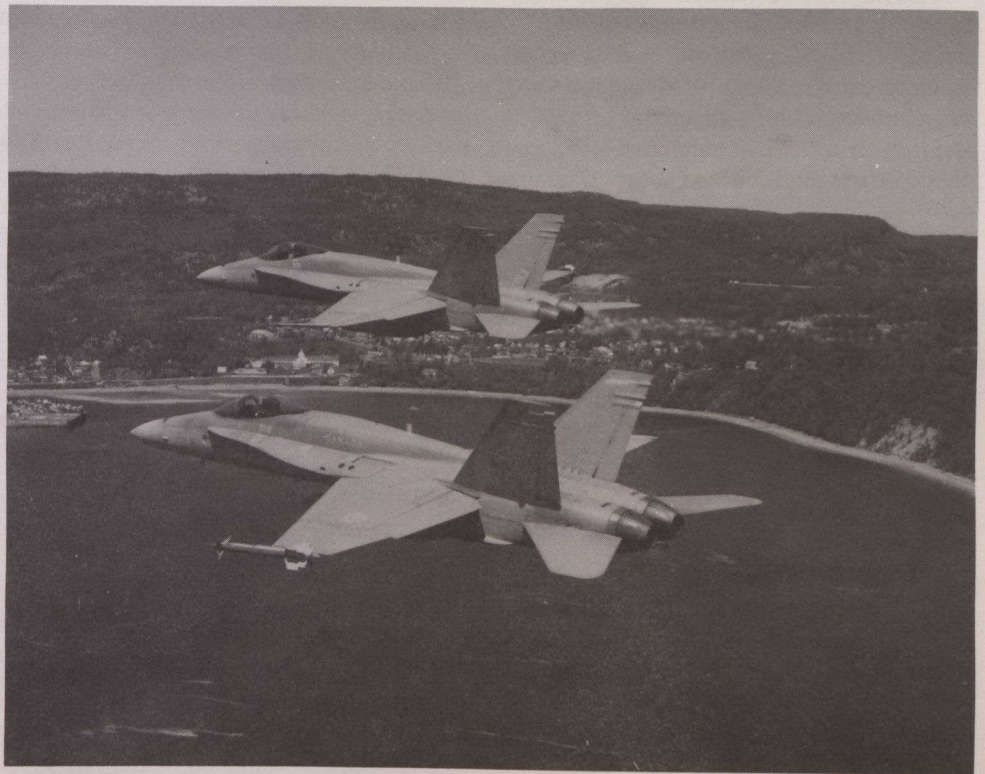
The adjustments affect the definitions of the seven weapons categories (tanks, armoured combat vehicles, artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships and missiles) annexed to the 1991 General Assembly resolution that established the arms register. For armoured combat vehicles, the Panel recommended reducing the relevant gun calibre from 20 mm to 12.5 mm and broadening the category to include armoured combat vehicles that launch any type of missile, instead of only anti-tank missiles. The Panel also recommended modifying the wording of the combat aircraft and attack helicopter categories to make clear that transfers of reconnaissance and electronic warfare versions are to be reported. For combat aircraft, transfers of versions designed for air defence suppression are also to be reported.

In the warship category, the Panel called for lowering the reporting threshold to 750 tonnes, thus extending the category's scope to ensure coverage of all corvettes. Panel members also recommended including vessels below this threshold that are equipped to launch missiles or torpedoes to a range of 25 km or beyond. In the missile category, the Panel reached consensus on the exclusion of ground-to-air missiles from the register. It did, however, recommend the inclusion of remotely-pi-

loted vehicles that are capable of delivering a weapon at least 25 km, to address concerns about the possible modification of such vehicles into cruise missiles.

As for operating procedures, the Panel designed a form for reporting arms exports and imports that is simple to complete and lends itself to easy compilation. The reported data will be collected and stored by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA) in a computerized data-

base. The ODA will also maintain an index of any background information submitted by states on their military holdings, procurement through national production, and relevant policies. Each year, the Secretary-General will combine the arms transfer reports and the ODA index in a report to the General Assembly. The Panel's report outlines the duties and rights of Member States, the Secretariat and the public with respect to access to the register.



Canada will be reporting its transfers and holdings of combat aircraft, such as these CF-18s from 425 Tactical Fighter Squadron, Canadian Forces Base Bagotville (Quebec), along with six other categories of weapons, to the UN arms register in 1993.

Canadian Forces Photo by M.Cpl. Michel Roy