

RETURN TO DEPARTMENTAL LIBRARY  
RETOURNER À LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE DU MINISTÈRE

## MAINTAINING PEACE WITH FREEDOM: NUCLEAR DETERRENCE AND ARMS CONTROL

by Lorne Green

The Canadian forces at present have no nuclear roles. It was not always so. For two decades, from November 1963 until June 1984, Canadian Forces had nuclear capabilities of one kind or another. Over the years, however, the Honest John and Bomarc missiles were disposed of, the CF-104 aircraft were converted from the nuclear strike to conventional attack role, and nuclear air defence weapons were no longer required because the CF-101 was replaced by the CF-18 in 1984. Today, there are no nuclear weapons on Canadian soil. Nevertheless, along with our partners in the West, we in Canada must still rely on nuclear deterrence to assure peace with freedom. With a population concerned about security in an increasingly complex world, it is important to understand the basis for our defence, for deterrence, and in particular, for nuclear deterrence.

### PEACE PLUS . . .

The peace with freedom enjoyed by Canadians cannot be taken for granted. The kind of peace we seek goes beyond the absence of war alone; Pope John Paul said, during his visit to Britain, that peace "involves mutual respect and confidence between peoples and nations. It involves collaboration and binding agreements." It can never be a frozen state; it must be created and maintained through continuing effort because there will always be forces working for its destruction.

Could there be in Canada a peace that was truly fulfilling if that peace were imposed on the members of our society at the expense of individual free-

dom? Canadians have the opportunity for self-realization through the exercise of considerable autonomy. As E.F. Schumacher wrote, "only when a man makes use of his power of self-awareness does he attain to the level of a person, to the level of freedom. At that moment he is living, not being lived."<sup>1</sup> Of course there are forces which are necessary for social order, but the individual in our society needs extra space, space for self-realization. Albert Schweitzer had a deep understanding of what he called 'the reverence for life' and recognized in men and women "a need to create by their own activities spiritual and material values which shall help to a higher development of individuals and of mankind."<sup>2</sup> Peace for Canadians is bound up with individual freedom and we are blessed with more opportunities than most for the exercise of personal freedom, and the enjoyment of individual and national peace. Freedom, like peace, cannot be taken for granted, however, and is subject to forces of decay if it is not defended and cultivated. Accordingly, so long as we live in an imperfect world we must take those minimum measures necessary to protect the values we hold dear.

### PEACE AND FREEDOM UNDER THREAT

It is an unfortunate fact of our time that there are real and serious threats to Canadian security; they come from those who, because of intolerance or insecurity, would seek to impose their own political, social, or economic values on others at the price of peace, of freedom, or of both. The East/West confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact takes place in a region that is something of an excep-

43-245-207