

with one another, it is equally necessary that a similar balance of aims be achieved in the Western alliance as a whole -- and Canada can, I believe, help to bring this about in the course of regular consultations as we do within the North Atlantic Council.

I need hardly point out to Members of the Committees how important it is for our activities in these two closely-related fields to be fully and effectively co-ordinated between the various government departments concerned.

The Disarmament Division of External Affairs maintains regular contact with the Defence Research Board and the Directorate of Strategic Studies of the Department of National Defence on research into the technical aspects of disarmament as well as on disarmament policy generally. General E.L.M. Burns is the adviser to the Canadian Government on disarmament and has responsibility for the direction of general operations and research projects, as well as being head of the Canadian delegation to the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Conference in Geneva, whose session will shortly be resumed. The disarmament delegation under General Burns consists of officers from the Department of External Affairs and a military adviser from National Defence. In Ottawa it is the function of the Disarmament Division and the Directorate of Strategic Studies to assist General Burns in carrying out his responsibility as Adviser on Disarmament to the Government.

We have over the years assumed a variety of international peace-keeping responsibilities. I know that my colleague, Mr. Hellyer, mentioned these in his statement, and I would like to amplify them. We took part in the United Nations action in Korea and in the United Nations force in West New Guinea and, as you will have learned from the Chiefs of Staff, Canadian armed-forces personnel at this time are serving on the Jordan and Syrian borders, the Gaza Strip, the Congo, whose operations are soon coming to an end, the International Commissions in Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia, Kashmir and the Yemen.

Co-operation in these operations between the Departments of External Affairs and National Defence is essential, but formal advance planning for them is very difficult. We can never know, I suppose, when a request will be received from the United Nations nor for what type of personnel. My colleague, the Minister of National Defence, has already mentioned the army battalion which has been earmarked for United Nations service since 1956. Yet it has never been asked for and, instead, we have provided a reconnaissance squadron, administrative troops and the RCAF personnel for the United Nations Emergency Force in Gaza, observers for Kashmir, Palestine and Indochina, specialized Air Force personnel for the Congo and the Yemen and signallers for the Congo. Operations in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia are, of course, not United Nations operations.