

THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

(POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE COMMITTEE OF 34)

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'By resolution 2006 (XIX) of 1965, the Assembly authorized its President to establish a Special Committee of Peacekeeping Operations. The Committee was asked to undertake a comprehensive review of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

After receiving a number of inconclusive reports from the Special Committee, the Assembly, by resolution 2308 (XXII) of 1967, requested it to undertake a study on matters related to facilities, services and personnel which member states might provide for UN peacekeeping operations. By resolutions adopted by successive Assemblies, the Committee has been urged to expedite its work with a view to fulfilling its mandate. The

Committee resumed meeting in 1988 for the first time since 1983.

By resolution 44/49 of 1989, the Assembly decided that the Special Committee should accept the participation of other member states as observers, in its meetings and those of its working groups. As of 10 May 1990 observers number 16.

The 34 members of the Committee are:

Africa:

Algeria, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Nigeria (Chair), Sierra Leone, and Egypt (Rapporteur);

Asian States:

Afghanistan, India, Japan (Vice-Chair), Pakistan, Thailand, China, and Iraq;

East European States:

(Vice-Chair), Hungary, Romania, U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, and Poland;

Latin American and Caribbean States: Argentina (Vice-Chair), El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Venezuela;

West European and Other States:

Australia, Canada (Vice-Chair), France, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Austria, Denmark, Italy, Spain, U.S.A., and Germany.

FUTURE ISSUES WILL FEATURE

1. A Letters to the Editor column.
2. A Column entitled: "From the Field", which will contain views and opinions from peacekeepers in the field, from government officials, from members of the United Nations secretariat, and from members of the general public.
3. Please send us your contribution.

► FROM THE PUBLISHER

Continued from page 1

Here, a good deal has been done, but there must be no let-up. We, in the western democracies, have enjoyed an unprecedented in history period of peace, but the Third World has been and is being torn by wars as never before, wars that could well grow to frightening proportions unless everything was done by the more fortunate of this world to bring them to an end or at least hold them within limits. International peacekeeping, wherever possible under the United Nations banner, is thus a necessity. It should be used even more often and more effectively than it has been done up to now. This will require a lot of effort, but also a lot of thought and consequent planning on how best to do it. We in Canada have a proud tradition of peacekeeping to uphold, but this also puts on us the obligation not to let up, to press on keeping the peace, in our interest and in that of mankind.

This newsletter will be devoted to reporting on and examining what is being done — and what more might be done — in the field of world-wide peacekeeping.

► ABOUT THE EDITOR

Alex Morrison, MSC, CD, MA was appointed Executive Director of the CISS in June of 1989 after a distinguished career as a military officer and as a diplomat.

Prior to coming to the CISS, he was Minister-Counsellor at the Canadian Mission to the United Nations where he served from 1983 to 1989 with responsibility for matters concerning peacekeeping, international security, arms control and disarmament.

In addition, he was a member of the Security Council delegation (1989), Rapporteur-General of the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, President of the International Year of Peace Pledging Conference, Vice-President of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, and represented Canada on the Ad Hoc

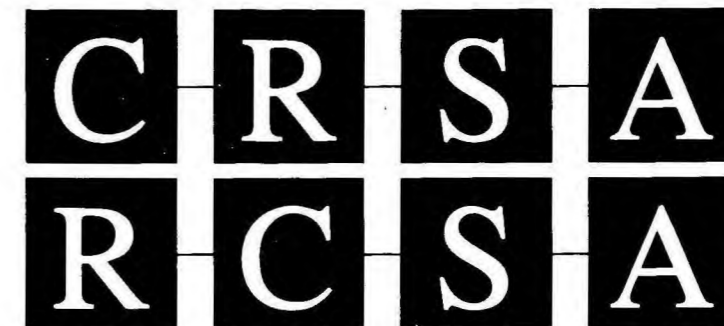
Committee on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. During the 43rd session of the General Assembly, he was chairman of the Barton Group — a twenty western nation arms control body.

Mr. Morrison is a graduate of Mount Allison University (BA), Royal Military College of Canada (MA), and Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College. He was a faculty member of the Canadian Forces College and has taught at the post-graduate level at Columbia University, New York, and at the undergraduate level at Glendon College of York University, at York University (main), and The Royal Military College of Canada. He has lectured widely to university and public interest groups in Canada, the United States, Singapore, and Costa Rica. He is an advisor on peacekeeping to many governments and commercial organizations.

He is the author of "The Voice of Defence: The History of the Conference of Defence Associations"; Editor of: "Nuclear Strategy in the 90s: Deterrence, Defence, and Disarmament"; "The Canadian Strategic Forecast: 1990"; "International Security in a Changing Global Order"; and of "The Canadian Strategic Forecast: 1991". He is a former Associate Editor of the Canadian Defence Quarterly, a frequent contributor to newspapers and magazines and is featured regularly on national and international radio and TV.

During his military career he served in Canada, Cyprus, USA, and the Federal Republic of Germany.

On November 15th, 1989, he was decorated with the Meritorious Service Cross by the Governor-General in recognition of his work on behalf of Canada at the United Nations.



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La Revue canadienne de Sociologie et d'Anthropologie

27:4 NOVEMBER 1990 NOVEMBRE

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Joseph F. Fletcher and H.D. Forbes

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Wallace Clement

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Douglas E. Baer and Ronald D. Lambert

'Not being a part of the way things work': Tribal culture and systemic exclusion in the Donald Marshall Inquiry
J.A. Mannette

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Seymour Martin Lipset

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Gary Bowden

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