

obliged to measure the threat to its security, and to assess the implications for its defence policies, of crises in or near the oil-producing fringes of the Third World.

An overwhelming majority of United Nations (UN) members, including Canada, condemned the invasion of Afghanistan at an emergency General Assembly session in January 1980. Along with the invasion itself, of serious concern also was the spectacle of Western disunity on sanctions against the Soviet Union, in particular over the call to boycott the 1980 Moscow Olympics. Canada supported the partial grain embargo against the Soviet Union by restraining its sales to normal and traditional levels during the 1979/80 crop year. This level of restraint was moderated in November 1980, when it became evident that the embargo was not working effectively. On the other hand, the West acted in unison when it decided, in April, to impose trade sanctions against Iran.

In the Middle East, which witnessed increased conflict and tensions during 1980, negotiations toward autonomy for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip continued between Egypt and Israel with the involvement of the United States. These negotiations proved to be very difficult and had not resulted in a settlement by year's end.

War broke out between Iraq and Iran in September 1980, after a year of deteriorating relations between the two countries. There resulted a reduction in oil exports that disrupted supply to many oil-importing nations and created further upward pressure on oil prices in spite of a lessening in world oil demand.

UN-sponsored intercommunal negotiations in Cyprus in the latter part of 1980 showed some promise of producing an eventual settlement. Despite continued UN opposition to the Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Kampuchea, efforts to bring about a political solution there failed. The area remained one of deprivation, persecution and widespread violation of human rights.

Events in Africa were variously to be deplored or welcomed. Libya's armed forces intervened directly in the civil war in Chad. There were intensive but unfruitful UN efforts throughout the year to bring Namibia to independence by means of supervised elections, in accord with Resolution 435. On the other hand, free, Commonwealth-supervised elections brought Zimbabwe to independence and restored representative government in Uganda.

In Central America, with the effects of the previous year's events in Nicaragua reverberating throughout the region, political instability in El Salvador gave way to large-scale violence and death. Further south, the democratically-elected government in Bolivia was overthrown in a military *coup*, while the military regime in Peru peacefully transferred power to a democratically elected civilian government. Canada did not recognize the new regime in Bolivia but it welcomed the new government in Peru.

As the year ended, labour unrest in Poland was still serious but both the government and the newly formed labour move-

ment appeared determined to settle disputes through negotiations and compromise.

East-West relations and collective defence

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan struck a blow at international confidence and thus at *détente*, since there can be no *détente* without confidence. Throughout 1980, there was concern among Western nations as to the effect of these new circumstances on the institutional expressions of *détente*. In particular, it was feared that the Madrid review meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) would produce only confrontation. Nevertheless, Canada and its friends and allies took the view that the Madrid meeting provided an opportunity for East and West to recognize their relative and joint interests. The opportunity to measure fully the usefulness of the meeting would have to await the completion of its work, in 1981.

Canada invested considerable time and effort in NATO-related matters in 1980. In addition to the regular ministerial meetings of the North Atlantic Council, held in Ankara in June and in Brussels in December, there was a special joint session of NATO foreign and defence ministers in Brussels, in May, to discuss the strategic implications of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the defence-related responses to that situation. These meetings led to increased Western appreciation of the need for political consultation and crisis management and, together with the encouragingly unified response to the Polish situation, produced a new sense of Western solidarity.

In the course of the year, Canada and the United States took steps to extend their North American Air Defence (NORAD) agreement to May 1981.

Earlier decisions affecting Canada's defence equipment bore fruit in 1980. In April, the government decided to acquire the McDonnell Douglas CF-18 (*Hornet*) for the new fighter aircraft program. In December, the government announced its decision to proceed to the contract definition phase in the patrol frigate program. Finally, delivery of the *Aurora* long-range patrol aircraft and its entry into service began during the year.

Arms control and disarmament

Participation in disarmament and arms control negotiations is one of the most important aspects of Canadian foreign policy. The government reaffirmed its commitment in this area by deciding in 1980 to establish the position of Ambassador for Disarmament.

Canada regretted that SALT II (the second agreement under the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks between the Soviet Union and the USA) was not ratified and hoped that there would be an early resumption of the SALT process between the two superpowers.

Arms control and disarmament efforts in 1980 included two meetings of the UN Committee on Disarmament (CD), bilateral USA-USSR discussions on banning chemical weapons,