

In July, the Secretary of State for External Affairs announced the creation of the Office of the Adviser on Disarmament and Arms Control Affairs. The Adviser represents Canada at meetings of major United Nations and other disarmament organizations, including the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, and serves as a point of contact, by means of a consultative group, for those individuals and institutions, within the Government and outside it, that are interested in disarmament and arms control questions.

In addition to its major task of helping formulate Canadian policy on disarmament and arms control, the Office stimulates public-information activities and initiates relevant research and special projects. The Office takes a particular interest in policies on non-proliferation, looking towards the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference that is scheduled for 1980.

Non-Proliferation

At the thirty-third regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly, in addition to the initiatives already noted, the Canadian representative co-sponsored a resolution calling for the holding in 1980 of a second conference to review the Non-Proliferation Treaty. The backing given this resolution, as well as the one on fissionable materials, was a further indication of the strength of international support for non-proliferation. Canada also continued to express its view that countries that had not already done so should adhere to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, or at least accept the safeguards administered by the International Atomic Energy Agency on all their nuclear activities.

With regard to Canada's own nuclear exports, the year 1978 was essentially a period of breakthrough and consolidation in its efforts to implement its upgraded policy on the safeguards conditions applicable to those exports. Discussions on those conditions were held with a number of Canada's bilateral partners in an effort to ensure effective implementation of that policy. In January a revised agreement for nuclear co-operation by Canada and the European Community, including a two-year interim arrangement on the question of reprocessing, was concluded. During the trip late in January by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, agreement was reached on a new bilateral safeguards agreement with that country that fully meets Canada's non-proliferation policy requirements. These two important agreements enabled Canada to resume shipment of uranium, which had been suspended in 1977, to the Community and Japan. These agreements also meant that Canada had been successful in implementing its safeguards policy with its major nuclear customers. Negotiations for a new agreement with Switzerland continued and, by the end of the year, were close to success.

During 1978, Canada continued to support the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to promote the peaceful use of