## The **Disarmament** Bulletin



security — military, political, economic, social, humanitarian, human rights creates conditions conducive to disarmament; it also provides the environment conducive to the pursuit of successful development. Thus our purpose must be to increase real security — for individual nations and for the world — by finding politically possible ways to spend less money on arms and more on development.

The Reykjavik Summit — and its extensions at Washington and Moscow focuses the attention of the world on the new possibilities for creative thinking to resolve the problems of conflict and deprivation that still afflict large areas of the world. A basis has been laid for what the Palme Commission calls 'extraordinary progress.'

'An opportunity exists for the 1980s to witness what only seemed to be a dream but which now can become real: concrete accomplishments in disarmament, stability and peace.'

...Canada's approach to the comprehensive issue of peace and security is multidimensional — ranging from our strengthening of the United Nations system (where we are the fourth-largest overall contributor) to External Affairs Minister Joe Clark's personal tour of Central America last week to lend Canadian support to the regional peace plan. In addition:

— Canada has boosted aid to \$900 million to famine-stricken Africa, written off \$600 million of African debt, and now provides bilateral development assistance in grants, rather than loans.

— The fight against apartheid through sanctions against South Africa has been stepped up: we have imposed a ban both on new investment in South Africa and re-investment of profits; in the first six months of 1987, Canada reduced its imports from South Africa by 51 per cent; the importation of coal, iron and steel has been banned along with the promotion of tourism....

 Canada is among the most active supporters of multilateral institutions as reflected in our hosting this fall of the Heads-of-Government meetings of La Francophonie and the Commonwealth. The next meeting of the Economic Summit will be in Toronto in 1988.

...One of my dominant impressions gained during more than three years representing Canada on disarmament questions at the United Nations is how much our country is respected. A strong legacy as a non-colonial nation, multicultural, open, loyal to our allies, cooperative, and genuinely involved in strengthening the international system enables Canada's voice to be heard. We have become an influential nation — carrying with this new status the responsibility of an even more prominent role in the difficult years ahead.

This gathering strength in international relations makes possible a stronger projection of Canada's security policy. This security policy is multi-dimensional.

...Canadian security policy must respond to an international environment dominated by the rivalry between East and West. These two groups of nations, each led by a superpower, are in conflict, a conflict of ideas and values. They are divided on how politics should be conducted, society ordered, and economics structured. They are divided on the value of personal freedom, on the importance of the rule of law, and on the proper relationship of the individual to the society. In this conflict, Canada is not neutral. Our values and our determination to defend freedom and democracy align us in the most fundamental way with other Western nations. Thus, Canada is a dedicated member of NATO, whose importance lies not only in countering the military threat from the Warsaw Pact but also in its political support for democratic institutions and for improved East-West political relations. Neither NATO's nuclear nor conventional arms will ever be used except in response to aggression.

As a result of its membership, Canada has been able to make a serious and constructive input to the important arms control negotiating efforts in Geneva,

Stockholm and Vienna. And we are working on ways for NATO to better project the positive qualities of its collective and cooperative security arrangements. Without the continuing direct opportunity to act and react, our influence on such events would be dramatically reduced.

Accordingly, Canada has commitments to its defence partners, which are expressed in the recent Defence White Paper. As Mr. Clark noted, Canada intends 'to modernize our capacity to meet our Alliance and Atlantic commitments.'

...The White Paper states that a strong national defence is a major component — but only one component — of Canada's international security policy. Arms control and disarmament and the peaceful resolution of disputes are equally important. Thus, the White Paper is not a surrogate Foreign Policy White Paper. All these activities should be seen as mutually supportive, and all of them enable Canada to play a role in the changing international community in putting into place the building blocks of peace.

Canada has six such 'blocks':

- Radical reductions in nuclear arms is the core of our disarmament policy. That is why the Reagan-Gorbachev summit process, leading to the dismantling of not only all intermediate- and shorter-range but also 50 per cent of strategic missiles is greeted with enthusiasm. The Canadian Government has consistently pressed both superpowers to achieve this.

— The realization of a negotiated and verifiable comprehensive test ban treaty has long been, and remains, a fundamental Canadian objective. Canada wants a halt to all nuclear testing by all countries in all environments for all time. At the United Nations this fall, the Government again co-sponsored a resolution urging the Conference on Disarmament to 'initiate substantive work on all aspects of a nuclear test ban treaty at the beginning of its 1988 session.'...