

global arms register to be maintained at the United Nations and to begin with reports by April 1993 on arms transfers during the 1992 calendar year.

According to the SIPRI Yearbook data, more than 50 percent of arms deliveries are to Third World countries.<sup>3</sup> In January 1992, a study by the Congressional Research Service<sup>4</sup> indicated that there had been a general decline since 1984 in the value of new arms transfer agreements with the Third World, with the exception of 1990 when the Gulf War led to significant new agreements with Middle East countries. In 1991, the downward trend continued. The value of all arms transfer agreements with the Third World fell to US \$24.7 billion, the lowest of any year since 1984. For the second year in a row, the United States ranked first in arms transfer agreements to the Third World, its share rising from 44.3 percent in 1990 to 57.4 percent in 1991. Three-quarters of the value of US arms transfers were accounted for by major agreements with Saudi Arabia, Egypt and South Korea.

#### CURRENT CANADIAN POSITION

Canada is not a leading exporter of armaments, being a distant eighth largest in exports to the industrialized countries, and outside the top ten in sales to Third World countries. In its *Second Annual Report on the Export of Military Goods from Canada*, published in March 1992, the Department of External Affairs restated the basic Canadian position on arms exports. Canada exercises governmental controls over arms sales to all countries except the United States. Under the 1986 Export Controls Policy, the export of military goods and technology is "generally" denied to the following:

- Countries that pose a threat to Canada and its allies;
- countries involved in or under the imminent threat of hostilities;
- countries under Security Council sanctions; and
- countries whose governments have a persistent record of serious violations of human rights, unless it can be demonstrated that there is no reasonable risk that the goods might be used against the civilian population.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> SIPRI. *World Armaments and Disarmament*. London: Oxford University Press, 1991.

<sup>4</sup> Richard F. Grimmett. *Conventional Arms Transfers to the Third World 1984-1991*. Washington D.C.: Congressional Research Service, July 1992.

<sup>5</sup> Canada, Department of External Affairs and International Trade, Export and Imports Bureau. *Second Annual Report, Export of Military Goods from Canada, 1991*. Ottawa, March 1992.