Peace-keeping

By the end of 1973 there were approximately 1,500 Canadian military personnel abroad involved in peacekeeping operations. Canada accepted requests to participate in two new peacekeeping operations in 1973: the International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS) in Viet-Nam and the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) in the Middle East. In the case of the ICCS, designed to supervise the negotiated cease-fire in Viet-Nam, Canada withdrew its participation on July 31, 1973, when it became clear that the conditions considered necessary to ensure a useful role by Canada were not being met.

The most recent Canadian participation commitment was to the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) in the Middle East, established in October 1973. The Force assists in facilitating conditions under which negotiations towards a settlement among the Middle East disputants can take place, and supervises the implementation of the cease-fire. UNEF is also required to use its best efforts to prevent a recurrence of fighting. Canada has an effective role to play in UNEF, with its contingent of more than 1000 men providing logistic, communications and air support for the international force. The continued effectiveness of UNEF will in part be determined by the acceptance and respect of the parties to the dispute for the terms of the ceasefire and the role of the Force.

In 1973, Canadian military personnel also continued to serve' with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in the Middle East (UNTSO), the United Nations Military Observer Group India-Pakistan (UNMOGIP) in Kashmir, and the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Canada provided approximately 480 men to UNFICYP and was the second-largest troop contributor to that force. A continued United Nations presence in Cyprus in 1973 was considered necessary to assist in the maintenance of stability during intercommunal talks on the political situation on the island.