

war in the Persian Gulf, a war conducted—to a limited extent—with oversight by the Council. Resolution 687 is a very comprehensive document, one without precedent in UN terms. Part C of that document spells out the procedures by which Iraq would be divested of its weapons of mass destruction, their missile delivery systems and the capacity to rebuild them. Long-term monitoring and verification provisions are also included. The resolution established the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) which, along with the IAEA, would execute the mandate. UNSCOM is responsible for chemical and biological weapons and missile systems capable of delivering all weapons of mass destruction. The IAEA is responsible for nuclear weapons. Both groups, using their unparalleled intrusive powers for on-site inspections, have been quite successful in accomplishing the identification and destruction aspect of their mandates. Arrangements for long-term monitoring are being put in place.

The activities under Resolution 687 are unique and the product of a situation where there was little or no doubt concerning Iraq's guilt in the invasion of Kuwait. The ability of the United States to build the necessary political will in the Security Council was also unique. Some argue that these circumstances are unlikely to be repeated and therefore care must be taken in drawing lessons and conclusions from this ongoing experience. Others believe that it is a practical example of what can be accomplished and that the investigation, inspection, destruction and monitoring techniques developed and used are good precedents for use in other regimes and situations, and not only those of a coercive nature. The IAEA, in particular, has profited from this experience, which could be applied, in part, in some future arrangement with, for example, North Korea.

Other International Bodies

Regional and subregional organizations and arrangements were foreseen in Chapter VIII of the UN Charter but have not, until recently,

played a large role in the maintenance of international security. This is now changing, not least because the central agency, the UN, is stretched beyond its physical and financial capacity. Moreover, the nature of current conflict with its ethnic, religious, tribal, etc. roots means that regional and subregional groups may well play a central role in intrastate conflict. In any case, most of the techniques are the same, and experience gained on the broader scene can be applied to the more specific. Meanwhile, the regional entities have to establish the requisite machinery and gain experience in both the prevention and, worst case, management of conflict before they can fully take on the tasks. The UN is ready to assist and has already done so. Regional and subregional groups should be able to become a more integral part of the process in the future. The following is a representative group having relevance to the issue of arms control and disarmament in the international security field.

The Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. The CSCE is by far the most developed regional organization in terms of arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures. The combination of agreed confidence-building measures and the creation of the Conflict Prevention Centre and the Forum for Security Co-operation have at least laid down a framework for crisis management. The CSCE took a formal decision to declare itself a regional organization as per Chapter VIII of the UN charter, thus underscoring its intent to work closely with the UN. The CSCE and the UN have begun to work out co-operative actions in an effort to best apply the capabilities of both organizations and avoid duplication. Whether operating jointly, as in the former Yugoslavia, or splitting responsibility for taking the lead, as in the former Soviet Union, the two organizations are developing experience and expertise which will enhance their capacity to deal with both current and potential problems.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Although "alliance" is the term of choice among its members, in UN parlance NATO is described

