

PREFACE

The Guide 1992 reviews major developments in the field of international peace and security from August 1991 to mid-August 1992, and surveys Canadian political statements and parliamentary debates on these issues. As with previous issues of *The Guide*, the sheer force and pace of international affairs of vital interest to Canada and Canadians necessarily means that coverage in an annual review such as this one is suspended at crucial moments in the unfolding of dramatic events. As in the 1991 *Guide*, there are substantial chapters that deal with the ongoing turmoil in the areas of the world that used to constitute Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union. The chapter on Iraq deals mainly with that country's compliance and non-compliance with UN Security Council resolutions and terms of the ceasefire agreement which followed the 1991 Persian Gulf war. The Middle East Peace Process is another chapter which at the time this *Guide* goes to press, has no clear outcome.

One very gratifying turn of events readers should note can be found in Section V under the heading *Strategic Nuclear Forces*. As set out in the tables, the numbers of nuclear weapons and vehicles to carry them deployed by Russia and the United States are dramatically lower than they have been for many years -- a reflection of the vastly altered political dynamics between the two nuclear superpowers.

A much less happy announcement I am compelled to make is that because of the Federal Government's decision earlier this year to dissolve the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security, the 1992 edition of *The Guide* -- the seventh annual issue -- is also the last to be published by the Institute. *The Guide* is one of those Institute products that by its very nature will be difficult to continue under different auspices. The combination of the Institute's special legal structure, its non-partisanship, and its ability to assemble the financial, scholarly and editorial resources necessary for a product as complex as *The Guide* are not to be found elsewhere in Canada. As the years went by, *The Guide* became an increasingly indispensable aid to Canadians wanting to understand the context for international events, trace their evolution and examine critically Canada's place in those events.