

Centre at La Spezia in Italy. In 1964, a NATO Committee of Defence Research Directors was formed. The purpose of this high-level body, which meets twice a year, is to provide advice on scientific matters to the NATO military authorities.

### Conclusion

NATO was formed in response to a specific challenge. The nature of the challenge may have altered and its impact has certainly been blunted, but it has not disappeared. To meet it, Canada and the other members of NATO must, in the words of Mr. Martin "remain militarily strong, politically flexible and economically dynamic". "It may well be that the major dangers to world peace will occur outside the NATO area," the Minister went on. "With that in mind, Western countries must close the gap between developed and under-developed countries, must encourage domestic reforms to remove inequities in wealth and standards of living, must overcome racial inequality and conflict, and must create conditions that will limit armed conflict in a world made up of many independent nations. The West cannot live in a vacuum, concerned only with Atlantic affairs and relations with the Communist powers, for the battleground on which the future as a community will be decided is world-wide. Each member of NATO has a responsible part to play in helping to maintain a peaceful world and ensure the continuation of a dynamic transatlantic alliance."

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