

He said that peacekeeping must be given a higher political and public profile. One way to do this would be to appoint a Canadian Ambassador for Peacekeeping. Professor Legault also advocated a new approach to Security Council membership. Germany and Japan must be given responsibility in accordance with their economic power. If it were not possible for them to be granted full membership then they ought to be named to specific Security Council committees in accordance with the terms of the United Nations Charter.

He concluded his presentation by advocating a "repairing of old bridges," that is, ensuring that, through the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, there is closer co-ordination between Western Europe and North America. Also, "new bridges" ought to be built, with particular attention paid to Germany and Japan. It would also be necessary to place increased emphasis on regional organizations such as the Organization of American States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Nicholas Stethem of the Strategic Analysis Group suggested that a spectrum of circumstances was a necessary tool for determining whether the United Nations would intervene in a particular situation where one or more of the parties did not agree. At one end of the intervention-decision spectrum was aggression, such as in the case of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

At the other end was anarchy, an example of which was the current situation in Somalia. Mr. Stethem drew attention to two difficulties with enforcement operations: lack of resources on the part of every country and the shortness of time available to decide whether to mount an operation.

The United Nations structure has not yet fully adapted to the post-Cold War environment and to the increase in peacekeeping activity. The manner in which decisions are taken at the United Nations makes it difficult for that organization to do anything more than establish peacekeeping operations and then delegate almost complete control to the field commander. As a consequence, peacekeeping missions are not as effective as they might be, due to a lack of strategic direction from the New York-based authorities.

PLENARY DISCUSSION

The discussion focused on seven areas.

1. Current and Future State of the Post-Cold War World

Participants generally agreed that the world has not entered the period of peace, harmony and tranquillity that we were expected to enjoy at the end of the Cold War. All segments of Canadian society must be involved in a national discussion to determine how to respond effectively to the new challenges. It is clear that the