

Finally, Canada also contributes significant naval forces to the NATO Command responsible for the defence of the North Atlantic.

### **NATO's contribution to détente**

NATO strength and solidarity can take much of the credit not only for maintaining peace in Europe but also for the progress so far made in resolving East-West political issues. Canada's membership in the Alliance entitles it to take an active part in the formulation of Western positions on these issues that takes place within the NATO framework. In addition, Canada's NATO membership gives it a role in the negotiations with the other side. Canada is currently participating in two related negotiations that have opened a further phase in the attempts to ease tensions and increase security in Europe. A number of Canadian interests are involved in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, particularly in efforts being made by the West to improve the freedom of movement for individuals between participating states. In the talks on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions, which are under way in Vienna, Canada is effectively contributing to the Western effort to reduce the confrontation of forces in Central Europe.

### **Other NATO activities**

Over the years, NATO has embarked on a series of programs to stimulate co-operation among its members in various areas of common interest.

For example, there are continuing efforts to exploit the possibilities that exist for co-operation among the allies in the development and production of defence equipment. These permit the most economical use of defence resources, besides producing mutual commercial advantage. For Canada, there is the additional advantage of technological "spin-off", particularly in such sophisticated areas as space and communications.

To assist in maintaining the military forces of the Alliance at a high level of efficiency, a number of co-operative arrangements exist among NATO members in the field of training. Canada, for instance, extends the use of its training facilities, on a cost-recovery basis, to Britain and Germany. Besides assisting Canada's NATO allies, these activities bring regional economic benefits to Canada at