

Any decision or agreement that could eventually divide the Alliance would cause us concern. It is obvious that such a possibility is less probable if all the members of the Alliance have a chance to put their views forward. In addition, we have suggested that it would be preferable to study the possibility of a greater participation in the military control of the Alliance by further developing procedures already existing within the NATO framework.

QUESTION (6):

What is Canada's conception of a permanent international peace force for the UN?

ANSWER:

Canada has on many occasions supported the idea of a permanent international peace-keeping force under the United Nations. Canada realizes, however, that the plans for provision of forces to meet the requirements of the UN that were conceived at San Francisco in 1945 have failed to be realized because of disagreement between the great powers. Canada also knows that the plans for such a force envisaged in the last stages of a disarmament agreement are a long way from implementation.

Lacking these alternatives, Canada believes the best way to make progress is to obtain agreement by members of the United Nations on ad hoc arrangements for peace keeping. Such arrangements might include the formation of national stand-by units for service with the United Nations and the creation of a planning staff of military experts within the United Nations Secretariat. In addition, the Prime Minister has proposed that a number of middle powers work out a stand-by arrangement to establish an international peace force for use by the United Nations when required. It has not been possible to implement this idea, but Canada did convene a meeting of countries with peace-keeping experience in Ottawa in November to exchange views on the practical military problems involved. We hope this meeting will contribute to the improvement of arrangements for peace keeping in future.

QUESTION (7):

How could we solve the financial problem of the UN in conformity with Article 19 of the Charter?

ANSWER:

What is involved is the collective responsibility of member states for peace-keeping operations undertaken by the United Nations. A majority of members believe, like Canada, that the costs of peace-keeping operations must be met in accordance with this principle and that the assessments by the Assembly to provide funds for these operations are binding obligations. A few governments, notably the U.S.S.R. and France, do not share this view either of the principle or the law involved.