Report of the Executive Director

It has been said that public institutions, once created, tend to pursue lives of their own, often unrelated to the objectives of those who created them, and sometimes only tenuously related to public needs. In the case of CIIPS we have tried to keep in mind that its purpose is "to increase knowledge and understanding of the issues relating to peace and security from a Canadian perspective", and we have understood this to mean **public** knowledge and understanding, broadly defined. Accordingly, we have concentrated on making such knowledge available through publications and conferences, and by means of grants to groups and individuals who wish in turn to create and disseminate knowledge of this kind.

Peace and security are not the normal state of affairs in most parts of the world, nor are the conditions for establishing peace and security the same everywhere, much less agreed. But the more we know about the causes of war, the more we can contribute to the conditions of peace. The Institute as a corporate body does not advocate particular policies to these ends, although we help others to do so and our staff is available to comment publicly on the issues.

I believe that, placed as we are in functional terms between the making of policy by government and the research and teaching missions of universities, the activities described below demonstrate that we are beginning to fill the needs of public education and policy-oriented analysis which our mandate requires.



Research

Research activities in 1986-87 addressed a wide range of issues in the fields of defence, arms control, disarmament and conflict resolution. The work of the Research Section can conveniently be separated into four categories:

- research publications
- co-operative research projects
- studies prepared for the Secretary of State for External Affairs
- other events

During the year, the first two Occasional Papers presented the results of scholarly research. The first, entitled "Superpower Rivalry and Soviet Foreign Policy in the Caribbean Basin", was completed and published in mid-1986. The second, entitled "Trends in Continental Defence: A Canadian Perspective", was published in December 1986. A number of further Occasional Papers, dealing with subjects ranging from conflict resolution to arms control proposals in the Arctic, will be published in the course of 1987.

In September 1986 the first edition of "A Guide to Canadian Policies on Arms Control, Disarmament, Defence and Conflict Resolution" was also published. The Guide is intended to serve as a basic reference work for individuals interested in knowing the position of the Government and the Opposition