



## Members of Consultative Group Attend First Committee



Members of the Consultative Group on a trip to New York. First row left to right: Lt. Gen. Reg Lane, Ms Janet Sawyer, Ms Judith Meinert, Ambassador Roche, Ms Valerie Klassen, Dr. Terry Carson. Second row left to right: Mr. Fergus Watt, Mr. Alec Morrison, Permanent Mission to New York, Dr. David Leyton-Brown, Mr. Rankin MacSween, Prof. Jean-Guy Vaillancourt, Ms Beverley Delong and Mr. Paul Bennett, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Department of External Affairs.

Ten members of the Consultative Group on Arms Control and Disarmament Affairs participated in an Orientation Programme at the First Committee of the General Assembly from October 11 to 17, 1987. This is the second year in which the Department of External Affairs has undertaken this programme. Its aim is to enable committed and interested members of the Consultative Group to be more fully involved and informed about the multi-faceted work for arms control and disarmament undertaken by Canada in the United Nations, and in particular the First Committee, which deals with security and international affairs.

The purpose of the programme was therefore twofold: first, to assist in the education and dissemination of information among those involved directly in the

programme and indirectly to the organizations/communities with which the participants are associated; and second, to enhance and strengthen the Consultative Group on Arms Control and Disarmament Affairs.

The participants were briefed on the arms control and disarmament activities of the Permanent Mission of Canada and of First Committee operating procedures. They met separately with UN representatives of Czechoslovakia, the USSR, the USA, the United Kingdom and Indonesia and with various UN secretariat officials. Participants also attended a number of First Committee meetings, in order to see first-hand how business is conducted in that forum. The group was present to hear the main Canadian intervention on October 13 by Douglas Roche, Ambassador for Disarmament.

There were also opportunities to attend sessions of the General Assembly, and to meet non-governmental representatives.

During the course of the week, a number of participants were struck by the lengthy and complex processes of the First Committee, and by the significant role which Canada appeared to play in arms control and disarmament.

## UN Recognizes 'Peace Messengers'

On September 15, 1987, the International Day of Peace, the United Nations formally recognized the work of some 100 organizations and institutions around the world which had made significant and concrete contributions to the 1986 International Year of Peace. The United Nations Secretary-General, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, presented those being honoured with "Peace Messenger Awards" in a ceremony at the United Nations Peace bell, while simultaneous events took place in Geneva and Vienna. Ten Canadian groups were honoured for their contributions with this prestigious award: Children for Peace, College Saint Maurice, the International Council for Adult Education, the International Organization for Psychophysiology, Peacefund Canada, the Peace Research Institute-Dundas, People in Equal Participation, Inc., Saskatoon Mothers for Peace, the United Nations Association in Canada and the International Political Science Association. Unfortunately, representatives of only three of the Canadian winners were able to participate in the New York ceremonies.

Following the awards presentation, recipients toured an exhibition of material emanating from the International Year of Peace. Canadian exhibits included the Saskatoon Mothers' quilt, posters and essays, the International Year of Peace postage stamp, and a copy of the award-winning *What Peace Means To Me*, copies of which are still available in English and French by writing to the Editor.