

Canadian Forces (Europe)

Canadian forces allocated to support NATO in Europe are under the jurisdiction of Canadian Forces (Europe). These forces, located in the Black Forest region of Southern Germany at Lahr and Baden Solingen, consist of a land force (4 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group) and an air force (1 Canadian Air Group). The latter consists of three conventional attack squadrons of CF-104 aircraft.

Canadian peacekeeping operations

Since the Second World War, Canada has played a vital role, in co-operation with the United Nations, in its capacity as a peacekeeping agency for the preservation of peace and the promotion of international security. Canadians have participated in almost all UN peacekeeping operations to date – in Egypt, Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Cyprus, Korea, India, Pakistan, West New Guinea, the Congo, Yemen and Nigeria.

Nearly 900 Canadian soldiers served in the Gaza Strip following the Israeli-Egyptian crisis of 1956 until the force was disbanded in 1967. In the Congo, a 300-man signals unit provided communications for the UN Force from 1960 to 1964. Canadian participation in the International Commission for Control and Supervision in Vietnam and Laos began in 1954; at the high point of participation, in 1973, following the U.S. military withdrawal from Vietnam, there

were 245 Canadian Forces personnel involved in the supervision of the cease-fire. The Canadian Vietnam supervisory contingent was withdrawn in July 1973 and the Laos mission was withdrawn in the spring of 1974.

Canada's largest peacekeeping commitment at the present time (1979) is in the Middle East, where Canadians participate in the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) and in the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). UNEF serves in the Sinai and UNDOF on the Golan Heights. Canada's current participation in UNEF/UNDOF is approximately 1,000 personnel; about 880 Canadians are serving with UNEF and about 172 with UNDOF.

The UN Force in Cyprus is another of Canada's large military commitments. Since 1964, Canadian participation has included provision of an infantry battalion and a Canadian element in the UN headquarters – a total of approximately 580 officers and men. However, in July 1974, following the troubles in Cyprus, Canada, at the request of the UN, augmented the Cyprus contingent by an additional force of approximately 480 officers and men and some additional military equipment. About 515