

The Disarmament Division, which is responsible to the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, is concerned with the development of policy in relation not only to far-reaching disarmament plans but also to more limited proposals for the control by international agreement of military forces, weapons and expenditures. The division prepares reports and recommendations on arms control and disarmament matters in co-operation with other divisions of the Department and is in close contact with several other government departments whose areas of responsibility may be affected by disarmament issues. The direction and co-ordination of research on various aspects of arms control and disarmament fall to the division.

An important function of the Disarmament Division relates to the conduct of negotiations within the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee as well as participation in more general discussions in the United Nations General Assembly or the United Nations Disarmament Commission. In this connection, the division is charged with assisting the Adviser to the Government on Disarmament in carrying out his duties as the principal Canadian negotiator on arms control and disarmament subjects.

The Consular Division is responsible for the conduct of all consular matters. Its duties include safeguarding the rights and interests of Canadian citizens and companies abroad; making arrangements for the protection and evacuation of Canadians resident abroad in times of emergency or war; representing Canadian citizens in matters involving estates abroad; assisting in finding missing persons; helping Canadian citizens in difficulty or distress abroad, including those who are temporarily destitute and, as appropriate, providing financial aid on a recoverable basis either to relieve their immediate difficulty or to repatriate them to Canada where warranted; handling matters pertaining to Canadian merchant shipping and seamen; procuring and authenticating legal documents; providing advice and assistance on citizenship questions; acting as visa officers in countries in which the Canadian immigration authorities are not represented; and the issuance and renewal of Canadian passports. The Consular Division is also responsible for the negotiation of agreements with foreign countries for the easing of entry requirements for Canadian citizens visiting such countries, whether by the waiver of visas, the elimination or reduction of visa fees or the introduction of multi-entry visas.

The Passport Division is responsible for issuing passports to Canadian citizens. This is done in Canada through the Passport Office, 85 Sparks Street, Ottawa, and abroad through Canadian diplomatic missions, consular and trade offices. The Passport Office also provides certificates of identity to non-Canadians legally landed and currently residing in Canada who are eligible to receive them. During 1966, 251,553 passports were either issued (208,804) or renewed (42,749) to citizens residing in Canada; in addition, some 1,699 certificates of identity were issued, and 982 were renewed. Fees received by the Passport Office during the year amounted to \$1,129,717.70. Growth in public demand for passport services has increased by 123.26 per cent in the past ten years.