

reassurance might help build confidence on both sides. It should be noted, however, that the Soviet Union might have other incentives for maintaining substantial armed forces in Eastern Europe such as the need to support the incumbent regimes there. This could greatly complicate negotiations regarding the creation of these types of zones. It is also important to note that adoption of these zones could involve significant modification of NATO's current doctrine of forward defence.⁶⁰

h) Verification and Compliance

If both sides were to agree to the presence of a demilitarized buffer zone flanked by limited forces zones, it is conceivable that some form of multilateral third-party group could administer the implementation of the zones and respond to complaints stemming from disputes over force and manpower levels in the various zones. As mentioned previously, the verification body could be composed of parties to the agreement. More precisely, a multilateral NATO/WTO body might be responsible for ground verification, including operation of the early warning stations as well as organizing and dispatching quick-reaction inspection teams. These teams would report violations to the verification body and to the parties directly involved. At the same time, a "plurilateral" group — that is, a like-minded subset of the parties — might be



△ Members of Canadian Armed Forces are shown on duty as peacekeepers in the Middle East. The control of buffer zones by UN personnel, through on-site inspections and the operation of observation and control posts, was an important element of the Sinai disengagement process. Sinai Field Mission civilian personnel also played a key role as on-site inspectors. (Canadian Forces Photo).

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 555. It is likely that adoption of the concept of graduated zones of arms limitations might require modification of NATO's strategy of forward defence. This would probably be a particularly sensitive issue for the Federal Republic of Germany with its need to safeguard the capability to engage hostile forces as close to enemy territory as possible.

