

## 7. **Iran and Iraq**

During this study Committee members were concerned as to what constructive role Canada could play, if any, in the Iran-Iraq situation. The Canadian government has appealed to both parties to end the conflict and urged them to make use of the good offices of the Secretary-General. Canada has strongly supported his mediation efforts in this war. After hearing testimony on this subject, the Committee concluded that, beyond this, there was little that Canada could do.

## 8. **Canadian Peacekeeping in the Middle East**

In general terms, the Committee has concluded that Canada's contributions to peacekeeping operations in the Middle East have helped to contain conflict in the area. It is a role for which Canada is well qualified, and represents an effective use of its armed forces. The Committee therefore believes that Canada should consider seriously future requests to contribute units to peacekeeping forces which may be established in the region.

### a) **UNTSO: The United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization**

The Committee recommends that the government support any international effort to strengthen UNTSO so that it could, on relatively quick notice, be available to monitor arrangements which might be made to resolve the Arab-Israeli dispute. UNTSO has been effective in observing points of confrontation in the Middle East and has helped to maintain channels of communication. It is not costly and its long experience and continuous mandate could be a major advantage in terms of speed and effectiveness of response.

### b) **UNDOF: The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force**

This UN peacekeeping operation on the Golan Heights impressed Committee members as being effective, properly planned and executed. Both Israel and Syria appear to agree that UNDOF is the best solution to the problem until a settlement of the area is reached. The Committee recommends that Canada continue to contribute to UNDOF.

### c) **UNIFIL: The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon**

Unless the Lebanese government were to acquire greater stability and authority following the Israeli withdrawal, the Committee doubts that UNIFIL will be able to carry out its mandate effectively. In these circumstances, the Committee considers that the Canadian government should be extremely cautious about agreeing to contribute to any expanded role for UNIFIL in southern Lebanon.

### d) **MFO Sinai: The Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai**

The Committee agrees with the government's acceptance of the invitation to Canada by Egypt and Israel to participate in the Sinai peacekeep-