INFORMATION SERVICES

SINCE THE INSTITUTE WAS FOUNDED THE Information Services section's mandate has been to collect and disseminate information on issues of peace and international security; and more specifically, to establish and operate a library, and to cooperate with existing libraries and facilities in similar fields. From the outset there has also been the goal of building a specialized resource centre of the highest international standard. Consequently, we have not only developed a specialized library in the peace and security field, but have integrated a range of other activities in the programme. The library, however, remains the core from which all other Information Services activities emanate. It offers the services of a small specialized resource, providing a high level of service for internal and joint projects, and for the public at large, both in Canada and abroad. This is provided through reference service by mail (including electronic mail and fax), telephone, and on-site visits.

Almost since the start of the Institute, we have been creating a computerized record of the library's holdings, including the indexing of articles in the periodical collection. This database has now grown to include 15,000 records, to which a further thousand are added each month. The database specializes in materials other than books, which are added to UTLAS (University of Toronto Library Automation System) – a database of the holdings of primarily Canadian university libraries.

In conjunction with the creation of the database, we began the development of a *Peace and Security Thesaurus*, to fill a widely recognized need for a body of subject terminology to classify collections in the field. The first published version of the English thesaurus was released in March 1989, and has been of great interest to libraries across the country and internationally. The French language version is being completed.

At the end of 1988 the Institute acquired a Hewlett-Packard MICRO GX 3000 super-

"Thanks to you and your colleagues for two excellent conferences in Winnipeg. Both were splendidly organized and full of substance."

WINNIPEG

From left to right: M. Miller, M. Mayer, S-M. Lemieux, K. Laundy, J. Wright, L. Cardinal, S. Connell