

In addition, it is not enough to resettle displaced persons and solve local disputes. There must be effective follow-up action after resettlement to ensure the continuation of community life. The mission was successful in putting back together two small communities, a "drop in the bucket" but a concrete example of building peace at the grassroots level.

PEACEBUILDING

Following the three "reports from the field," Nancy Gordon of CARE Canada spoke on the reconstruction and rehabilitation phase of peacebuilding, with particular emphasis on "what happens when the troops leave?"

Democratic development will not happen immediately. The developing countries will, of necessity, experience the same trials and tribulations as they proceed on their way to democracy as those experienced by developed countries. Mrs. Gordon advocated that Canada adopt the practice of seconding junior military officers to humanitarian organizations for indoctrination and familiarization purposes. She was also in favour of the United Nations decentralizing and "contracting out" certain functions to non-governmental organizations in the humanitarian assistance field.

Mrs. Gordon concluded that while peace does not automatically continue once the troops leave, peace could be maintained if those who are disadvantaged are provided with the opportunity for a better life.

PLENARY DISCUSSION

The ensuing discussion revealed the necessity of informing all Canadians of the wide range of humanitarian and other activities currently being carried out by non-governmental means, which quite appropriately deserve to be placed under the peacekeeping umbrella. The importance of the media in stimulating public awareness was stressed. Also emphasized was the positive result to be gained through co-operation with organizations currently working in the field, and through the implementation of effective follow-through programs. Some participants spoke of the need for an early warning system involving the collection, collation, interpretation and dissemination of information.

It was suggested that Canada:

1. take the lead in ensuring that the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs better co-ordinate its activities;
2. participate in the much needed redesign of United Nations agencies' mandates, to take into account the changing international situation;
3. spearhead the creation of a United Nations organization to deal with internally displaced persons, who now outnumber refugees; and