

The Base as well must receive personnel augmentation from Canada to fulfil its war tasks. We have contingency plans to deploy the required augmentees.

Because the Brigade will be deployed well away from the base area in time of war, I foresee a horrendous traffic-control problem in the rear area seriously aggravated by refugees. In all probability, the Base will have great difficulty in moving supplies by road or rail to 4 CMBG. I intend to alleviate this problem by recommending the deployment of *Chinook* helicopters to the Base. These helicopters have an excellent heavy-lift capability, of about 12-15 tons, or they may also be used to transport up to 45 troops. I am confident that this addition would give both the Base and the Brigade the added flexibility they will require to ensure that critical requirements are delivered when and where they are needed.

I want to re-emphasize at this point that the ideas I have shared with you are some of the options that must be studied before I submit my recommendations to the Minister by April 1, 1976.

UN peace-keeping

We have over 1,700 people, including reserves, serving with distinction on United Nations duties round the world, but primarily concentrated in the Middle East and Cyprus. Our peace-keepers provide a valuable service, and we may be justly proud of their contribution towards the preservation of world peace and stability.

However, it should also be recognized that maintaining our UN commitments creates a considerable strain on our personnel resources. This is particularly evident when one looks at our force in the Middle East, where we are responsible for providing the administrative support to the UN force, which totals 5,800. The result is that I have over 900 specialists serving in that theatre. These men and women are drawn from units across Canada. They are not replaced during their six-month tour of UN duty. This hurts. We have eased the burden by cross-training at home, but this too costs time, money and manpower. At present we are looking into this problem, and we hope to have recommendations in the near future to present to the Minister for consideration.

To this point, I have hardly mentioned the reserves. The primary role of our reserves is to support the regular force. It has been my aim to integrate our reservists as much as possible with our regular force. I have directed that the reserves be manned at a level of about 20,000. My aim is, initially, to improve their quality and not their quantity. In order to do this, I have in-
