

## 24. DEFENCE - MAJOR EQUIPMENT ACQUISITIONS

### Background

The Department of National Defence has a number of ongoing major equipment acquisition projects.

In May 1985 three finalists were chosen from among 7 groups of firms competing for the Low-level Air Defence (LLAD) contract. On 16 April 1986 the Department of National Defence, announced that the contract had been awarded to the Oerlikon-Buhrle Litton consortium, and on 13 June 1986 final Government approval was given.

The LLAD system will consist of 10 anti-aircraft guns, 30 low-level surface to air missiles and 10 radar systems. It will be used to protect Canadian land and air forces in Europe. Specifically the system will protect Canadian troops and the airfields at the Baden-Soellingen and Lahr bases in Germany. The total programme cost is estimated at \$1.025 billion (1986 dollars) of which \$650 million will be spent on the system itself and \$350 million on spare parts, training, ammunition and other costs. The LLAD system should be complete by 1991.

The Tribal Update and Modernization Program (TRUMP) was approved on 9 May 1986. This programme involves four DDH 280 Tribal class destroyers which entered service in 1972 and 1973. The destroyers will receive a new command, control and communications system, and a supportive air defence missile system. The new air defence system is perhaps the most important improvement since the destroyers currently have no way of fending off the increasing threat from the air which consists of attacking aircraft and anti-ship missiles. The total cost of the TRUMP project will be \$1.2 billion (in 1986 dollars). The first vessel will enter the Lauzon shipyards in November 1987, and work on all four destroyers should be completed by early 1992.