



the Department of External Affairs and other interested Departments to exchange views on matters of mutual interest relevant to Canada's policies on disarmament and arms control. The next meeting of the full Consultative Group will take place in October 1987.

"On October 2-4, 1986, the Consultative Group on Disarmament and Arms Control Affairs met in Ottawa to discuss the interrelationship of arms control and disarmament and defence and, in particular, to explore opportunities for Canada to enhance Canadian and international security through the improved coordination of these objectives. This theme, developed by the Consultative Group's Steering Committee, responded both to an expressed desire within the Consultative Group to examine the interrelationship between arms control and defence matters — especially in the bilateral Canada-US context — and to the view expressed in the report of the Special Joint Committee on Canada's International Relations that: 'arms control and disarmament policy, on the one hand, and defence policy, on the other, should move in tandem.'

Approximately 50 individuals, representing a wide range of organizations and perspectives, took part in the meeting, along with some 20 government officials.

The Group looked at the interrelationship of arms control and disarmament and defence for Canada in three contexts: the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the North American Aerospace Defence (NORAD), and the United Nations (UN).

Many participants felt that membership in NATO facilitates the pursuit of Canadian arms control objectives, although others discerned tension between Canada's alliance role and its arms control efforts. The Group was divided over the issue of whether or not Canada should increase spending on its NATO



Mr. Douglas Roche, Canada's Ambassador for Disarmament. Mr. Roche is Chairman of the Consultative Group on Disarmament and Arms Control Affairs.

contribution as a means of enhancing its influence on arms control issues and of protecting Canadian sovereignty, especially in the North.

Considerable interest was expressed in alternatives to the present structure of NORAD. A proposal to make NORAD a NATO command received strong support. The Group also evinced appreciable interest in establishing a Canadian air defence and early warning system, although there was some concern about the costs involved. It was noted that the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) is likely to have implications for NORAD that Canada should be prepared to deal with.

Many participants felt that Canada should continue to play a strong and active role in the fora for arms control and disarmament provided by the UN. There were, however, many suggestions for reform at the UN.

The Group strongly urged the Canadian government to continue its distinguished efforts to achieve a com-

prehensive test ban (CTB). Many participants felt that a step-by-step approach is the most useful route to a CTB and, in this context, there was considerable (although by no means unanimous) feeling that the government should encourage a positive American response to the Soviet testing moratorium.

Many participants suggested that, as a Pacific country, Canada should pay more attention to defence and arms control matters in that region. The proposal that Canada encourage regionally-based restrictions on the production and distribution of conventional arms also received support.

The meeting included a special session dealing with the subject of public education on global security which featured a presentation by Mr. Roger Mollander, President of the Roosevelt Centre in Washington, D.C. Mr. Mollander suggested that, in grappling with contemporary problems of global security, it is useful to keep in mind long-term objectives. In addition, by taking a longer view, people can avoid the contention that characterizes much of the current debate on short-term problems and arrive at some agreement on a common goal. This, as a consequence, will make the near-term issues more susceptible to solution. There was considerable interest in Mr. Mollander's suggestion that simulation games can be useful tools in public education on nuclear issues.

In the opinion of most participants, this meeting of the Consultative Group had been a worthwhile endeavour and had gone farther than previous meetings in reconciling the tensions between the strategic studies community and the peace and disarmament community. Suggestions that the focus of future Consultative Group meetings be more specific and that the size of discussion groups be decreased received appreciable support. Several substantive issues for future consideration by the Consultative Group were proposed."