

When hostilities end in the Gulf, there will be a number of requirements that could call for a United Nations peacekeeping role. These requirements could include the disengagement of forces, maintenance of public order, as well more traditional types of peacekeeping activities such as the observation of ceasefire lines or international borders.

Canada has considerable experience in UN peacekeeping operations of various sorts and in many regions of the world. The Canadian Government has made it known to the Secretary General of the United Nations and to others its willingness to make this expertise available in the planning for an eventual operation and to consider contribution to a mission, if requested.

There are, of course, unique elements in every conflict and the current crisis in the Gulf is no exception. It is not, therefore, possible to predict the type of operation that might be required or to speculate on the type of contribution that Canada might be asked to make. The situation surrounding the cessation of hostilities will determine the nature of the operation.

Canadians have participated in all but one of the 19 United Nations peacekeeping operations over the past 40 years as well as in missions not under the authority of the UN, such as in South East Asia and in the Multinational Force in the Sinai. Canadian involvement has therefore been broad, both in geographic terms in the nature of the operations.

Following are examples of peacekeeping operations to which Canada has contributed and continues in some cases to contribute, in the Middle East:

#### UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)

Established in 1948 and employed continuously since in the supervision of the various truce and peacekeeping arrangements between Israel and her four Arab neighbouring states. Canada has contributed military observers to the mission since 1954 and provided the senior officer to the mission from 1954 to 1956 - Lieutenant General E.L.M. Burns who went on to a distinguished career at United Nations Headquarters.

#### First UN Emergency Force (UNEF 1)

Canada played a leading role as a peacemaker in bringing the Suez war to an end in 1956 and thereby allowing Israel and Egypt to stop fighting and the Anglo/French alliance to withdraw from the region. The key to achieving a cessation to hostilities was the establishment of the UNEF, the concept which won Lester B. Pearson the Nobel Prize for peace. Canada was a