

to deal constructively with the complex questions of disarmament without taking fully into account the security imperatives of both sides. We want equal security at lower levels of armaments, manpower and expenditure.

Canada's security policy

Canadian security policy, as it has evolved since the Second World War, has been based on three foundations of peace:

- (a) the deterrence of war through the collective security arrangements of NATO and North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD);
- (b) the persistent search for equitable and verifiable arms control and disarmament agreements; and
- (c) active participation in and support for the peaceful settlement of disputes and a collective effort to resolve the underlying economic and social causes of international tensions and disputes.

Broadly speaking, Canada is confronted by the following types of disarmament problem:

- (a) the nuclear balance between the United States and the Soviet Union, including the interface with the other three nuclear weapon states;
- (b) the conventional forces balance in Central Europe between NATO and the Warsaw Pact;
- (c) conventional wars and confrontations in the developing countries too often fuelled by big power intervention; and
- (d) the risk of proliferation of nuclear weapons to additional countries.

I will comment briefly on Canada's interest in each of these types of arms control and disarmament problems.

Nuclear weapons

First, nuclear weapons: Canada is vitally interested in the nuclear-weapons confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union, not only because this country lies geographically between the Soviet Union and the United States, but also because, as a party to the NATO and NORAD agreements, Canada is a member of a nuclear-armed alliance, accepting its benefits and its responsibilities. Through a number of NATO committees Canada is informed about the United States' nuclear planning and has a full opportunity to contribute its views in the development of NATO nuclear policies. For instance, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of National Defence joined other NATO ministers in the December 1979 decision to modernize NATO's land-based, intermediate-range nuclear forces in the European theatre and at the same time to propose negotiations with the Soviet Union on the limitation and reduction of these forces. This two-track decision has been reaffirmed by NATO foreign and defence ministers on repeated occasions since 1979, and both aspects are currently being pursued.

Negotiations on intermediate-range nuclear forces in Europe have begun in Geneva between the United States and the Soviet Union. The United States consults with its allies on its negotiating position in the NATO Special Consultative Group, of
