

proliferation. In February, the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs proposed new measures specifically aimed at curbing proliferation, including a gathering of leaders to issue a statement of global political will condemning these weapons.

The North American Aerospace Defence (NORAD) Agreement between Canada and the United States was renewed for a further five years.

IMMIGRATION

In 1990, the Canadian government announced a five-year plan increasing immigration from

200 000 in 1990 to 220 000 in 1991, and then to 250 000 per year until 1995.

Because of the vast political and economic changes taking place in Europe, there was increased pressure on Canadian immigration facilities. In 1990, Canada accepted 13 442 refugees and 37 944 immigrants from Western Europe. Many Eastern European refugees have also funnelled through Western Europe during the year. Two computer systems, the Computer Assisted Immigration Processing System (CAIPS) and Immigration Mega, allow the Department to track people through the process.

ADMINISTRATION

Departmental expenditures for the fiscal year totalled \$1 150.5 million. Severe cutbacks in the operating budget of the Department have led to new cost-accounting measures and overall efforts at cost-effectiveness. To this end, a Corporate Review was undertaken to study operations at headquarters and abroad. The results, published in June 1990, recommended the reorganization of several divisions. The Audit and Evaluation functions were combined under an Inspector General, a Ministerial Correspondence Unit was created to answer letters on behalf of the Ministers, and the New Resource Planning and Management Secretariat assumed responsibility for departmental resources.

Public Service 2000 and the Corporate Review led to some repositioning of staff and some reductions by attrition. Further training has been initiated, and a Departmental Ombudsman was appointed.

The Corporate Review also indicated the need for a Consular Immigration and Passport Affairs Branch. During the 1990 calendar year, at posts abroad, the Department issued 181 902 immigrant visas and 644 889 visitor visas. Canada now has 5.6 million passports in circulation.

The Department continued to enhance its computer networks for communications and data retrieval. MITNET, for example, combines voice, data, facsimile, and message traffic using the latest Canadian technology.

In an effort to reduce high rentals in some foreign countries, Canada is purchasing more property through the Long-Range Capital Program. A major accomplishment was the \$200-million redevelopment of the Tokyo Embassy.

CONCLUSION

The complexity and flux of the world situation, the economic realities of the recession and the internal restructuring and fiscal restraints made this a year that challenged the Department's resources. Employees at all levels deserve credit for diligence

and enterprise. With their help, External Affairs and International Trade Canada will continue to promote Canada at home and abroad, to foster international trade, and to influence and administer the government's foreign policy in the years ahead.