

PREFACE

This third volume of the Guide outlines major developments in international peace and security during 1987-88 and describes the main Canadian policy statements and parliamentary debates in the field. Covering the areas specified in the mandate of the Institute, the survey deals first with various aspects of arms control and disarmament, and afterwards goes on to look at defence and then at conflict resolution.

The Guide is divided into 31 distinct sections, focussing on such issues as the efforts to establish a new treaty on strategic nuclear weapons, the acquisition of new equipment for the Canadian armed forces, and the evolution of regional conflict situations in Central America and elsewhere. All are important items on the international or Canadian peace and security agendas.

Global developments pushed themselves increasingly to the centre of Canadian attention during 1987-88. The signing of the Treaty on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Weapons (INF) at the Washington Summit in December 1987, as well as increased hopes for a new treaty on strategic nuclear weapons, Soviet moves towards withdrawal from Afghanistan, and some extraordinary political developments within the Soviet Union itself, sparked off a good deal of speculation about the future prospects for East-West relations. Meanwhile, the persistence of conflicts between Israelis and Palestinians, within Lebanon, in Kampuchea, in Central America, and elsewhere, underlined the limits of superpower influence. Concern about the global economic, social, health and ecological situation also continued to grow, as the greenhouse effect and other threats to human survival loomed like dark