

may also be called for at times, although this may be less frequent than requests for technical, logistics and other specialists.

The world is changing, and throwing up new challenges and new requirements in the area of international peace and security. Japan has emerged as an economic superpower, and the Asia-Pacific region is now one of the most dynamic in the world. China has established some contacts and some respectability following ostracism after the Tienanmen massacre, and may in due course resume the march towards greater liberalization and enhanced international influence that had marked its path in the early 1980s. India is becoming a major economic and military power -- despite continuing poor relations with Pakistan -- and is gaining recognition as the major regional power in South Asia. And there are many problems and causes for concern -- mixed in with some progress -- elsewhere in Asia and also in Africa and Latin America. Environmental, population, ethnic, social, economic and other challenges contribute to making this a world that is anything but settled and tranquil. It is a world which in the future may place many demands -- some of them unforeseen and unexpected -- on the Canadian armed forces.

National and Continental Tasks and Commitments

The range of defence tasks on and around this continent seems unlikely to change significantly in this decade, unless some future Canadian government decides that Soviet strategic capabilities no longer need to be countered, or concludes that some current defence activities should be transferred to or from the civilian sector. However, the nature of some of those tasks will certainly change, in response to evolving political, strategic, technological and other factors.

The aerospace defence of the national and North American territory is likely to remain a prime concern. Canada will probably continue to participate, in this field, in