

where it is protecting the position of states relative to Article 2.7 of the Charter concerning domestic jurisdiction/internal affairs.

The Security Council. This body has always had a role in arms control and disarmament through Article 26 of the Charter of the United Nations, where it is "responsible for formulating, with the assistance of the Military Staff Committee . . . plans . . . for the establishment of a system for the regulation of armaments." For well-known historical reasons that has not happened; nevertheless, where the political will has existed, the Council has found alternative ways to exercise something akin to that particular mandate. At the historic meeting of the Council at the level of heads of state and government on January 31, 1992, it devoted a large portion of its concluding statement to "Disarmament, arms control and weapons of mass destruction." The Council reaffirmed its role in the area of arms control and non-proliferation by linking it to the maintenance of international peace and security.

The Council urged member states to "resolve peacefully in accordance with the Charter any problems concerning these matters," but also hinted at stronger measures in the event peaceful means failed. In the case of the Non-Proliferation Treaty the Council referred to "appropriate measures" for the enforcement of its provisions. The Council was laying down a marker that it was willing to use all measures available, including the use of force, when there was, in its opinion, a clear threat to international peace and security resulting from the abrogation of an arms control/disarmament agreement.

One of the principal means the Council has adopted to execute its role of maintenance of international peace and security is the creation of peacekeeping and other peace operations missions. Chapter VI of this study described the various peace operations in a generic sense. Here we will examine more directly the roles played by peacekeeping and peace enforcement missions as they relate to arms control and disarmament.

Peacekeeping Missions. Peacekeeping as a concept was not envisaged in the Charter but has been one of the most successful innovative techniques of conflict control and resolution arrived at by the Council to execute its mandate, including its role in arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation. In recent years, as the scope of peacekeeping operations has expanded, the mandates have more and more included provisions for arms control and disarmament. The tasks have ranged from the traditional such as the monitoring of troop withdrawals and disengagement zones, the conduct of weapons inspections, etc., to newer aspects such as the supervision of demobilization and the disposal or destruction of weapons.

Although the UN has gained a great deal of experience in the supervision of the arms limitations aspects of peace agreements, especially in the Middle East, it is only recently that its peacekeepers, and those of some regional organizations, have been directly involved in other areas of arms control and disarmament. This is due, in part, to the fact that many of its operations are now intrastate rather than interstate and are happening in areas where there have been horrifying accumulations of conventional arms. There are also instances where, pending a settlement, the UN or other third party, often in co-operation with individual states or groups of states, has participated in the enforcement or surveillance of arms embargoes in order to assist in "suffocating" the situation.

In peace settlements ranging from Central America to Asia and Africa, most now have provision for cantonment and disarmament of combatants, demobilization, establishment of demilitarized zones and, in some cases, destruction of surplus weapons or at least their gathering into depots. Assistance in de-mining has also become a major contribution as death and injury due to mines is the principal source of casualties in many of these regional conflicts. This is arms control in its purest form. Some agreements put the onus on the parties to the conflict to police

