

and broadening the base of NATO, that is, policies which are general in orientation and contain little specific content to facilitate policy formulation (to say nothing of implementation). In the two cases where specific issues arose, Berlin and France's withdrawal from the integrated command structure, the Government's policy received a substantial degree of support from the press, but less than for the more general issues. On issues which would have required an increase in Canadian military participation such as the various plans for a NATO nuclear force the press was almost completely opposed. With respect to Canada's present military commitment in Europe the press seems evenly divided. (Table No. 11).

Fourthly, and most important, NATO is receiving less press support at present than at any time during the 1960's. This may only be a passing phase arising out of the crisis over France's withdrawal and the partial U.S. - U.S.S.R. détente: but on the other hand an increasing segment of the press questions the value of NATO and Canada's role within the alliance. The fact that half the papers commenting on the Canadian forces in Europe are in favour of withdrawal or a reduction is indicative of increasing dissatisfaction. Papers that have often supported NATO in the past such as the Toronto Globe and Mail, the Edmonton Journal and the Vancouver Sun have in some instances become increasingly anti-NATO. The Montreal Gazette is the sole paper that has shown increasing support for NATO since 1959.

The reasons employed by both the anti and the pro-elements of the press are similar to those used by the traditionalists and revisionist academics. It is interesting to note that the Toronto Globe and Mail shifted away from support for NATO after carrying lengthy items by such revisionists as James Eayrs and Stephen Clarkson. Similarly, the Montreal Star became more outspoken against NATO after carrying an item by Edward McWhinney. Here is an indication that academics have an influence on other attentive public groups.

The majority of the press, however, have not withdrawn their support for NATO as table No. 12 clearly shows. Of the 19 papers surveyed, 12 remain in favour of continuing the alliance, but nearly all stress the need for revision and change within NATO.