

DEMILITARIZED ZONES

The conclusion just reached in regard to Arctic-wide NWFZs would seem to suggest that little attention need be paid to the subject of demilitarized zones, insofar as they seek to restrict military activity in a given region even more comprehensively. Nevertheless, numerous proposals for such comprehensive measures for the Arctic have been made in the past, and deserve mention. More importantly, proposals for a *partial* demilitarization of the region, or large parts of it, have also been made and offer at least some promise of proving negotiable in the not-too-distant future.

The first proposal for comprehensive Arctic demilitarization appears to have been that of the first Inuit Circumpolar Conference General Assembly in Barrow, Alaska, in June 1977. Resolution 77-11 of that conference, on the "Peaceful and Safe Uses of the Arctic Circumpolar Zone," resolved to prohibit "any measure of a military nature such as the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military maneuvers, and the testing of any type of weapon, and/or the disposition of any type of chemical, biological or nuclear waste, or other waste."¹⁰⁷ As we have seen, subsequent Assemblies of the ICC have focused more narrowly on the concept of a NWFZ. Nevertheless, many Inuit leaders continue to speak of complete demilitarization as their ultimate goal. This was reflected in the final operative paragraph of Resolution 86-26 on " Militarization of the Arctic", adopted by the Fourth General

107. "Inuit Circumpolar Conference Resolution ICC 77-11, as amended: Peaceful and Safe Uses of the Arctic Circumpolar Zone," from the files of CARC, Ottawa.