

Defence relations

NATO

The Government's views on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, particularly in the political field, were outlined in the European sector paper of *Foreign Policy for Canadians*, published in 1970. The defence White Paper of August 1971 further defined the Government's position and

indicated its intentions with respect to Canada's military contributions to the alliance. In this White Paper, the Government "reaffirmed Canada's adherence to the concept of collective security, and announced that Canada would continue to station significant though reduced forces in Europe as part of the NATO integrated force structure The decision reflected the Government's judgment that Cana-

dian security continues to be linked to West Europe and that Europe is still probably the most sensitive point in the East-West balance of power. It is the area from which any conflict, however limited, might most readily escalate into all-out nuclear war engulfing Canadian territory".

The encouraging results of West Germany's *Ostpolitik* and agreements reached between the

NATO Ministers in Brussels in December. (NATO Photo)

