

There are some 800 agreements, treaties, memoranda of understanding and other arrangements relating to Canada-U.S. defence co-operation. The North American Air Defence Command (NORAD) was the creation of one of the most important of these bilateral agreements. A new configuration of NORAD regions is to go into effect about 1981, creating seven regions, two of which will be entirely in Canada. These will be controlled by regional-operations control centres in North Bay and Edmonton.

Other elements of North American defence co-operation include joint maritime exercises by ships and aircraft of the two navies off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. On land, units of Canadian Mobile Command exercise with the U.S. Army, both in Canada and the United States.

Arrangements for the sharing of defence production, systematized since 1953, have facilitated closer co-operation in defence development and production. These arrangements have enhanced Canada's ability to contribute to the strengthening of the North American defence-base. In the years 1958-73, cross-border military trade between Canada and the United States totalled \$6 billion.

There are also arrangements for search-and-rescue operations, weather reporting, civil-emergency planning, northern research, and many other activities involving the forces of both countries.

Peace-keeping

The Canadian Government continued to support the notion of peace-keeping as an alternative to the resolution of international problems by force, and to provide this support in practical ways. In 1977, over 1,600 Canadians served abroad as peace-keepers, including over 1,100 with the UN Emergency Force (UNEF) and the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in the Middle East, and 515 with the UN Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Canada continued to participate in two observer missions - the UN Truce Supervisory Organization (UNTSO), with 20 military observers, and the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), with nine military observers—both of which were established in 1948.

Although the situation in each of the peacekeeping theatres remained relatively stable during 1977, progress towards the solving of underlying political problems was slow. Towards the end of the year a dramatic exchange of visits by the President of Egypt and the Prime Minister of Israel raised hopes for substantial progress in the new year. However, in Cyprus there was little evidence of a mutual disposition towards reconciliation and serious negotiation, though it was hoped that renewed efforts would be made early in 1978. (See also "United Nations".)

Military-training assistance

An interdepartmental committee chaired by the Department of External Affairs administers the Military-Training Assistance Program. Where positions are available, training is provided, on request, for personnel of the armed forces of selected developing countries. The program provides basic officer, junior-staff and military-trades training courses.

In 1977, over 100 foreign candidates, primarily from Africa and the Caribbean, were trained in Canada, of whom approximately 30 per cent attended officers' courses. Three Canadian officers helped set up the new Ghanaian Armed Forces Staff College, where they are now serving as instructors.