

dealing with mutual security problems and as a contribution to the general security of the NATO area. It was also concluded that, although it was substantially diminished in relative terms, there continued to be a bomber threat to North America that required some defence and that this could most efficiently and economically be provided through a continuation of the effective air-defence arrangement that had been worked out by the two governments through NORAD.

At the same time, the Canadian and U.S. Governments were aware of the growing importance of peacetime surveillance and control of their respective air-spaces. For this purpose, both Canada and the U.S. are in the process of developing national civil-military air surveillance and control systems, and it was concluded that the effectiveness of these new arrangements would be enhanced by a continuation of NORAD. To further the effectiveness of these new national systems, the two governments recently agreed to redefine NORAD's regional boundaries. For Canada this will have the practical effect that, in future, all operations in Canadian air-space will be controlled from centres in Canada and will be carried out by Canadians.

One of the principle consultative mechanisms for Canada-U.S. defence co-operation is the Permanent Joint Board on Defence (PJBD). Through its regular meetings during 1975, the Board provided a forum for the discussion of such issues as the dispersal of U.S. aircraft to Canadian bases in times of crisis, the renewal of the NORAD Agreement, the renewal of an agreement to operate jointly a torpedo-testing range at Nanoose Bay, B.C., and the possible industrial development of surplus lands at the U.S.-leased naval station at Argentia, Newfoundland. The Board also provided an opportunity to both countries to exchange views on various aspects of their defence policies that were of mutual interest.

As a continuing function, the Department co-ordinates Canadian co-operation with the U.S. in various research activities that help maintain the defence preparedness of North America.

Peace-keeping

At the end of 1975 Canada, the largest contributor of troops for UN peace-keeping, had

more than 1,500 military personnel abroad in this capacity. During the year, Canada continued its participation in such long-standing peacekeeping projects as the UN Military Observer Group India-Pakistan (UNMOGIP) and the UN Middle East Truce Supervisory Organization (UNTSO), as well as the UN Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and the more-recently established United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) in the Middle East and the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan Heights between Israel and Syria.

The Canadian contingent in Cyprus was reduced during 1975 from about 800 to 515, reflecting the evolution to a fairly stable situation on the island; outbreaks of intercommunal violence became during the year relatively minor and infrequent. However, progress towards a solution of Cyprus's political problems was slow. The intercommunal talks, which were broken off in September, had not been resumed and the northern sector of Cyprus was under continuing occupation by Turkish troops. Nonetheless, the atmosphere of relative restraint, brought about in large part by UNFICYP's presence, may, it is hoped, accelerate progress towards a settlement.

Canada is the largest single contributor to Middle East peace-keeping, with a contingent of 975 that provides logistics, communication and air support for UNEF-UNDOF and with 20 other Canadians serving with UNTSO. Middle East peace-keeping has contributed significantly to stability in the region and thus facilitated the achievement of the Israeli-Egyptian agreement in September 1975, which increased the prospect of progress towards a peaceful general solution.

Though peacekeeping responsibilities place heavy strain on the resources of the Canadian Armed Forces, the Government continues to favour the notion of peace-keeping as an alternative to the solution of international problems by force, and it gave practical expression to this determination in the Defence Structure Review of late 1975, which allocated up to 2,000 Canadian personnel to the discharge of such duties.

Military training assistance

Under the Military Training Assistance Program, Canada continued in 1975 to provide members of the armed forces of selected developing countries, on request, with space in