

how this works, I should like to say a brief word about the specific responsibility of External Affairs in the defence field. Ultimate responsibility for defence policy rests with the Cabinet as the executive authority of government for all decisions relating to defence questions. There is also the Cabinet Defence Committee, which considers defence questions and reports to the Cabinet on major matters of defence policy. The Prime Minister acts as Chairman of this Committee, and both the Minister of National Defence and myself are members of it. The Department of External Affairs, through myself as Secretary of State for External Affairs, has general responsibility for advising the Government and implementing action, where necessary, on the foreign-policy implications of defence arrangements. Specifically, the Department of External Affairs:

- (1) co-ordinates and advises on the preparation of international defence agreements;
- (2) co-ordinates and advises on the implementation of certain specific defence agreements;
- (3) advises on the effects of Canadian defence policy generally as it relates to other governments.

To carry out these responsibilities within the Department, we have Defence Liaison Divisions, which, in consultation with the political and functional divisions of the Department, deal with NATO matters, Canada-U.S. defence problems, co-ordination of intelligence, international peace-keeping both under UN auspices and otherwise and technical military assistance to newly-independent countries. A separate Disarmament Division is responsible for liaison with the Department of National Defence and for co-ordination of instructions to Canada's Disarmament Delegation. These responsibilities are co-ordinated through an Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs responsible to me through the Under-Secretary.

If Canada is to have foreign and defence policy commensurate with its national requirements and capabilities, the Government must be able to work from a given and agreed set of facts. For the defence department of a country to base policies on one set of facts and the foreign office of that country to base policies on another is bound to lead to utter confusion, and it has been the practice of Canadian Governments, particularly since the end of World War II, to ensure that foreign and defence policy are based on agreed intelligence. Agreed intelligence and intelligence policy are the responsibility of inter-departmental committees on which sit representatives of the armed services, the Defence Research Board, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the Department of External Affairs. The chairmanship of these committees is provided by the Department of External Affairs. Further details on this aspect of co-operation are of necessity classified but I can tell you that it works well.