

the development of such a situation ended the 'relative immunity from direct attack on its territory which Canada had long enjoyed, (and) the principal objective of Canadian policy became the prevention of nuclear war.'

Advocacy of nuclear disarmament is not to construe, however, that Canada is unilaterally disarming. As Mr. Lamontagne observes, 'The paradox resides in our having to develop and maintain increasingly potent forms of military power in order to obviate the use of it.' Canada's approach, instead, is to turn its back completely on the nuclear club and convert its armament entirely to conventional weapons. Rather than disarming, by the end of the decade Canada will in fact have a remarkably sophisticated arsenal which will include the highly advanced, supersonic CF-18 Hornet fighter planes; the fast, heavily armoured Leopard tanks; a new fleet of anti-submarine frigates; and the very sophisticated, computer-laden Aurora patrol aircraft, the most effective submarine hunters in the sky. What distinguishes Canada from other highly evolved military nations is that while it has all the

required technology and resources to equip itself fully with nuclear weapons, it chooses instead to set an example for the rest of the world by renouncing them.

As Prime Minister Trudeau says, 'Not only has Canada become the first country in the world with the capacity to produce nuclear weapons that chose not to do so, we are also the first nuclear armed country to have chosen to divest itself of nuclear weapons.'

Canada's Armed Forces continue to be a significant component of national power, but only to preclude the use of military power by its adversaries in imposing their will. That means that the objectives of the Department of National Defense (DND) are to keep an alert, efficient, sophisticated and credible Armed Force that can serve Canada and its allies immediately. It further enhances the image and reputation of the Armed Forces that they assist civil authorities in search and rescue missions, flood relief, scientific research, and in many other areas where their expertise and training can save lives and property. ♣

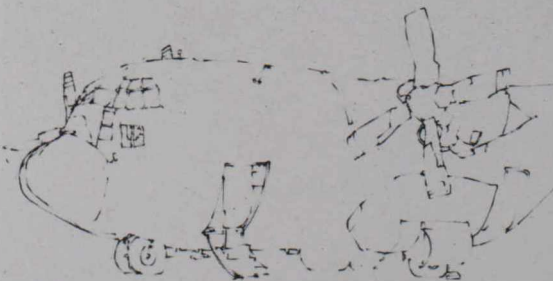
The historical view

When a man or woman places duty and country ahead of his or her own self interest and safety they often become heroes. Every nation takes pride in recognizing them as such, and Canada is no exception. There is nothing unusual in the fact that heroes are often created on the battlefield, for there are few places where the substance and character of a human being are more harshly tested than in the face of enemy fire.

Since 1883, when Canada established its own permanent military force, no fewer than 94 Canadians have won the Victoria Cross. Considering Canada's relatively small population and short military history it speaks well of the Canadian soldier.

But not all soldiers are heroes. In fact most of the men and women who have served in Canada's armed forces over the past century have been ordinary citizens caught up in the events of crisis far beyond their control. Canada has always been able to rely on sufficient volunteers for service abroad. The first to be sent overseas went to serve in the Boer War under British command. They distinguished themselves, and suddenly Canada, a nation barely 30 years old at the time, had an army of reputation.

With the ties of family and empire so strong, Canada has always been among the first to stand beside the United Kingdom during times



Hercules by Robert Field 1968. (Pencil)