

Another positive step was taken recently when the UN accepted a Canadian proposal to standardize logistics policies and operating procedures for use in establishing new missions. I am pleased to report that, due to our considerable expertise and experience in this area, the UN has accepted Canada's offer to take the lead in coordinating this project. We have also loaned one logistics specialist to the UN to work on the concept of organizational requirements for a UN Standby Force.

The Canadian Forces are heavily involved in a variety of other military and academic forums that are considering the question of how to improve peacekeeping operations. This past weekend, for example, Canadian officers were among representatives from UN troop-contributing countries who attended a major seminar on peacekeeping issues in London.

While we must be realistic about what can be achieved within the confines of our resources, we must be equally realistic about what constitutes success in peacekeeping operations. In cases such as El Salvador and Namibia, UN missions have accomplished their aims quite well. However, there have also been failures -- for example, in Angola and the original UNOSOM force for Somalia. In other cases, success has been limited. Cyprus is a good example. On the face of it the outcome has been undeniably disappointing. However, even that operation has to be seen as somewhat successful, considering the protection and stability it provided to NATO's southern flank at a critical time.

Looking to the future, I believe peacekeeping must continue to evolve to remain relevant to the challenges. Our definition of the root causes of war has expanded over the years to include economic and environmental factors, among others. As a result, new concepts are emerging that promise to radically alter the nature of peacekeeping. Among the concepts being explored are:

- Environmental Peacekeeping;
- Anti-crime/Terrorist Operations;
- Maritime Peacekeeping;
- Protective Peacekeeping; and finally,
- Preventive Peacekeeping.