



# Bulletin

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## NEW LOOK FOR CANADA'S ARMED FORCES

*The following is a statement by Mr. Léo Cadieux Minister of National Defence, on September 19:*

To set the scene for the statement I am about to make, I would refer you to two previous statements: the Prime Minister's on April 3 and my statement in the House of Commons on June 23. In these statements the rationale for changes in Canada's defence posture is set out with the roles for the forces stated as follows:

- (a) The surveillance of our territory and coast-lines i.e., the protection of our sovereignty;
- (b) the defence of North America in co-operation with United States forces;
- (c) the fulfilment of such NATO commitments as may be agreed upon; and
- (d) the performance of such international peace-keeping roles as we may from time to time assume.

The Government, as you will recall, has undertaken to restructure our forces over a period of time so that the equipment and training for the above roles at home and abroad will be compatible. As I informed the House at the beginning of June, we believe, barring unexpected international developments, that we can achieve the transition within a defence budget which will be maintained for the next three years at its current dollar level of \$1.815 billion *per annum*.

It is against this background that I shall now enlarge on the outline force structure contained in my June 23 statement, which forecast the changes necessary to give substance to the Government policy on defence. There are still some consequential decisions to be made but, by and large, the forthcoming shape

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of the Canadian Armed Forces can now be enunciated.

The force I am about to describe is considered by my military advisers to be a viable force capable of meeting the tasks set by the Government.

Extensive consultations have taken place in NATO over the past three months in fulfilment of the Government's undertaking to take account of the views of its allies in bringing about the planned and phased reduction of the size of the Canadian forces in Europe.

During these consultations, Canada has reaffirmed its intention to meet, in a responsible manner, its collective security obligations under the North Atlantic Treaty and to continue to play an active and constructive role in support of the values we share with our allies.

Certain details remain to be worked out before firm commitments for 1970 are made by NATO governments at the annual ministerial meeting in December, but the general make-up and roles of the Canadian forces for NATO can now be given. I can now also outline the changes being made to our forces in Canada.

#### NATO - EUROPE

First, I shall deal with our NATO commitment in Europe. We plan to phase out our brigade group and our air division in Germany by the autumn of 1970, when we shall establish co-located land and air elements under one Canadian headquarters. These