

There are sound reasons for Canada to have a small regular armed force of 78,800 men and women. In a changing world, where force and violence shape events, there must be a balance of guns; and Canada, as a sovereign state, cannot simply abstain. Since its defence must always be a shared one, it must contribute its share. It does.

As a committed member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), it shares in the defence of Europe and the North Atlantic. As part of the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD), it shares in the defence of North America.

Canada assumes peace-keeping duties throughout the world.

Currently Canada is expressing these commitments by embarking on major reequipment programs, which include the purchase of tanks, patrol aircraft and fighter aircraft.

In this issue of CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI we consider Canada's past and present status as a military power.