

United States or by the Soviet Union. In order to break this deadlock, Canada suggested that the 18 candidate countries be admitted simultaneously and tabled a resolution to this effect. The General Assembly adopted the resolution, and although the Security Council vetoed the applications of Japan and Outer Mongolia,<sup>2</sup> a compromise solution had been reached and 16 new countries were admitted. Later Canada opened the way for the People's Republic of China to enter by officially recognizing China at a critical point in China's international relations. Other countries followed suit and China was finally admitted in 1971.

Canada is well known for its role in the 1956 Suez crisis. In a race against time the Canadian delegation, led by Lester B. Pearson, then Secretary of State for External Affairs, negotiated an arrangement which avoided armed confrontation and resulted in the formation of the first UN Emergency Force (UNEF I). Canada played an active part in this force for 11 years, lending the experience it had acquired in the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), and in the UN Special Committee for Palestine.

UNEF and UNTSO are two peacekeeping operations towards which the UN turned when the "international feudalism" referred to by Saint-Laurent made it difficult to maintain international peace and security. Peacekeeping activities fall into two categories: sending observers to supervise the application of a truce, and using the fairly sizable UN international force to prevent confrontation between antagonists. Canada is the only UN member that participated in all the 11 peacekeeping operations organized by the UN between 1945 and 1975. So far Canada has taken part in 16 of the 17 peacekeeping operations and two independent operations in Indo-China and Korea at a total cost of about \$500 million. Today there are Canadian troops in the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus, in the UN force in charge of observing the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian forces in the Golan Heights and in the UNTSO.

Canada feels that long-term planning is essential for effective peacekeeping operations. In 1965 Canada organized a conference in Ottawa to examine the military aspects of peacekeeping.

In addition to actual peacekeeping operations, Canada was part of the UN force in Korea, providing three destroyers, an air transport wing, an army brigade and about 27,000 troops. A Canadian officer is a member of the UN Command Military Armistice Commission (UNCMAC).

In our imperfect world, peacekeeping operations are an effective temporary solution to the problems that jeopardize international peace and security. Disarmament and arms control are long-term solutions. Canada, believing that these are concerns of the utmost importance, is an active participant in all UN activities related to disarmament and arms control. Our country is a signatory of a number of arms control and disarmament agreements negotiated in the UN.

Canada, as a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), has recommended the creation of effective guarantees against the diversion for military purposes of the materials and technology used in nuclear reactors.

## TOWARDS KINDNESS

Children are always the first victims of armed conflicts. In 1946, a committee, on which Canada served,<sup>3</sup> recommended creating a temporary voluntary fund to provide assistance to the children of war-ravaged countries. This led to the creation of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which produces the Christmas cards we all know. Profits from cards finance some of the programs of UNICEF, the purpose of which nowadays is mainly to provide aid to children in developing countries and to their mothers. These programs are geared to establishing and maintaining essential services in the areas of health, food, social services, education, etc. In 1984 Canada stood sixth among donors to UNICEF. In 1983-84 its contribution was \$14.5 million and an additional \$11 million was contributed by individual Canadians.

Aid to refugees is another area of UN humanitarian activity of special concern to Canada. In 1948 Canada helped create and support the activities of the International Refugee Organization (IRO) formed to help displaced persons. By the time this organization was dissolved in 1952, Canada had contributed a total of \$18 million and had given refuge to 125,000 homeless and stateless people. Canada is presently funding the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Howard Kennedy, a Canadian, was the first director of UNRWA which provides assistance, education and other services to hundreds of stateless persons. In 1951 the UN created the High Commission for Refugees (HCR) to replace the IRO. From the beginning, Canada has been a member of the HCR administration. Since 1969 Canada has also been a party to the 1951 UN Convention and the 1947 Protocol on the status of refugees. In 1983 Canada gave \$5 million to the regular program of the HCR.

Canada has always opened its doors to refugees in times of crisis. It received 38,000 Hungarians between 1956-57, 13,000 Czechs between 1968-69, 228 Tibetans in 1970 and 5,600 Ugandians of Asian origin between 1972-73. In 1976 4,510 Chileans and 6,518 Indo-Chinese were authorized to enter as refugees. More recently, in 1984, Canada received 15,400 refugees who came from Indo-China (5,939), from Eastern Europe (3,550), from Latin America (2,786), from Africa (1,083), from the Middle East (952), and from other countries (275). In addition, 960 of the 15,400 refugees in Canada in 1984 obtained refugee status on request once they were here.

## CANADA AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Many members of the Canadian delegation to San Francisco had a political or diplomatic background.<sup>3</sup> Their presence gave Canada a greater voice during meetings or in discussions with the major powers. This also explains, in part, Canada's extensive participation in ECOSOC and in the auxiliary organs and specialized institutions. Canada is or has been a member of the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Review and Appraisal, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Nar-

cotic Drugs, the Statistical Commission, the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, the Commission on Human Rights, the Boards of Directors of the UN Development Program and of UNICEF, the Trade and Development Board of the UN Conference on Trade and Development, Executive Committee of the UN High Commission for Refugees and the Boards of Directors of the UN Environment Program, of the UN Commission on Human Settlements (HABITAT), and of the Economic Commissions for Europe and for Latin America and the Caribbean.

On Canada's initiative, the UN Environment Program (UNEP) approved by consensus a resolution (adopted by the General Assembly in late 1983) creating an independent World Environment and Resources Council to project the future of the environment up to the year 2000 and beyond. Its members include two Canadians: Maurice Strong as Commissioner and Jim MacNeil as Secretary-General.

Canada has participated actively in the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights. As a result of a Canadian initiative in 1984, the Commission examined reports on the imposition of states of siege or emergency, which tend to threaten human rights. In addition, Canada obtained a consensus on resolutions dealing with persons detained for holding or peacefully expressing their beliefs, and on continuing efforts to improve ways to deal with, and if possible prevent, mass exodus of persons from any state as a result of violations of human rights.

Canada participated in the 1985 Nairobi Conference to review and appraise the achievements of the UN Decade for Women. Many Canadians participate on an individual basis in the work of the Advisory Body on Science and Technology for Development, on the UN Volunteers, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the International Narcotics Control Board.

The ECOSOC coordinates the work of those specialized UN institutions which are separate and independent intergovernmental bodies, each with their own organs for deliberation and execution. Canada has played a primary role in the formation of many such institutions (some of which existed before the UN was formed), and in their activities. They include the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which was founded in Quebec City (Canada is the main contributor to the FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), UNESCO, the International Civil Aviation Organization (headquartered in Montreal), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the World Meteorological Organization.

Canada's participation in the World Health Organization (WHO) is an example of our country's active interest in the specialized institutions of the UN. Canada has supplied technical and specialized staff to this organization; it operates Canadian faculties of medicine and nursing schools.

2. Japan was admitted the following year and Outer Mongolia in 1971.
3. Two of them, Louis Saint-Laurent and Lester B. Pearson, later became Prime Ministers of Canada, the first from 1948 to 1957, and the second from 1963 to 1968.