

Tanks (MBTS) and Armoured Combat Vehicles (ACV); the acceptance of limits on combat aircraft and helicopters at approximately 15% below current NATO levels; and limits on stationed USA and USSR troops of 275,000. Subsequently, Alliance members tabled an expanded and reorganized western proposal (with limits for combat aircraft and combat helicopters).

In Round III, the Western nations tabled detailed proposals on measures for information exchange, stabilization, verification and non-circumvention. Warsaw Pact members revised their aircraft and troop ceiling proposals, in addition to tabling a verification package which showed a good deal of convergence with the Western package. Moreover, an agreement on artillery definitions was reached during this round.

In Round IV, such topics as Soviet Air Defence Assets, Foreign Stationed Forces, Monitored Storage, Manpower and Grey-area vehicles were addressed. Moreover, Alliance members and members of the Warsaw Pact tabled their respective draft treaty texts.

We are now in Round Five of CFE, and prospects for the negotiation are good. Both NATO and Warsaw Pact members seek a substantial reduction in conventional forces in Europe and would welcome the decrease in tension and the economic benefits this would bring. After four rounds of negotiations, it is apparent that there is a considerable degree of Eastern convergence with the Alliance positions.

Since the early 1980s, Canada has succeeded in making visible and substantial contributions to the understanding of verification questions as they relate to multilateral arms control negotiations and agreements. In the CFE negotiation, Canada is utilizing its special expertise to contribute to the design of a rigorous regime for monitoring the provisions of an agreement and for verifying its results.