

Today, a nation's defence policy is inseparable from its foreign policy. Thus, under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), of which it was a founding member in 1949, Canada has major defence commitments through contributions of sea, land and air personnel, as well as military equipment.

Also within the framework of NATO, Canada and the United States are linked by the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD) for their mutual protection.

Apart from Canada's defence contributions to NATO, it shares (with 14 other members) in the continuing exchange of information, opinions and plans regarding political, economic, cultural and scientific developments affecting the group. Canada has contributed nearly \$2 billion in equipment and training to other NATO countries.

Through the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Canada shares with other NATO partners in discussions of trade and economic policies.

As a charter member of the United Nations, Canada for over 20 years has played a prominent role in the affairs of the world organization.

Canada has participated in every peace-keeping operation undertaken by the United Nations since 1948 — in Kashmir, Palestine, Korea, the Congo, West Irian, Yemen and Cyprus, and is one of the members of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee.

Canada's long-standing friendly relations with the United States are unique. Both nations share a common heritage and similar standards of living, yet both grew to their present status in separate ways.

Mutual defence is of vital importance to both nations, and, since 1940, a Permanent Joint Board on Defence has existed to co-ordinate and develop continental defence.

Because the two countries occupy the greater part of the northern half of the Western Hemisphere, many problems have arisen over boundary waters, canals and related matters, and, since 1909, an International Joint Commission has functioned successfully to help resolve difficulties to the satisfaction of both nations.



Canadian signaller in the Congo