

to perform tasks that make valuable contributions to the country in times of peace. In many instances the equipment and skills needed for defence are transferable to non-military functions, and rather than considering their exercise as an undesirable diversion from military training, it should be seen as a welcome opportunity to be useful in peacetime, while still maintaining a readiness, perhaps somewhat reduced, to meet unforeseen emergencies if and when they should arise.

It may be argued that civil functions are already adequately handled by other departments of government, or by the private sector. However, a country with a national financial deficit as large as Canada's needs to seek economies where possible, even if they should involve some redistribution of responsibilities among government departments. Moreover, newly emerging non-military threats such as environmental degradation⁴² and international drug traffic,⁴³ as well as the need to verify arms control agreements, are likely to create requirements for monitoring of types not currently undertaken by any national organization. While a military organization may easily adapt to a civil function, an organization manned and trained to perform a civil function is unlikely to be able to fulfil a military security role in times of need.

Of the various functions conducted by DND which resemble in some degree functions necessary for non-military purposes, an important category comes under the heading of surveillance. Considering the opportunities now being offered by new technology, a study of the requirements for surveillance for the security of Canada should examine the potential of a suitably equipped defence organization to provide a parallel service to provide surveillance for national civil as well as defence needs.

⁴² Michael Driedger and Don Munton, *The 1989 CIIPS Public Opinion Survey, Security, Arms Control and Defence: Public Attitudes in Canada*, Ottawa: The Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security, 1989. When asked to rank the three international threats (military, economic and environmental) facing Canada, now and ten years in the future, less than 7% of respondents felt that the military threat was the most serious. Environmental and economic threats were considered to be far more serious.

⁴³ "Congress Pressures Military to Assume Direct Antidrug Role," *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, 23 May 1988, pp 25 - 27.