

into negotiations because it feels that testing must continue to ensure weapons reliability and national security. The Reagan Administration also claims that a CTB cannot be adequately verified. During the last week of July 1986, the United States and Soviet Union met in Geneva to discuss a range of issues concerning nuclear testing.

In 1983 the United Nations Conference on Disarmament established a working group to discuss the verification and compliance issues of a CTB. This group, now called the Ad Hoc Committee, has had little success in agreeing on a programme of work. In 1983 the group continued with the same mandate on verification and compliance issues, but in 1984 and 1985 no agreement was reached on a new mandate and consequently the group has not met.

### Current Canadian Position

Achievement of a Comprehensive Test Ban (CTB) Treaty is listed as one of the Government's six major goals in arms control and disarmament. In a speech to the 40th Session of the United Nations, Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark stated that "for Canada, the achievement of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty continues to be a fundamental and abiding objective. Our aim is to stop all nuclear testing."<sup>1</sup> Mr. Clark continued:

to advance work on the verification of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, we will upgrade our analytical capability in seismic research. We will improve our large seismic facility in the Canadian North. We will expand the ability to differentiate between small earthquakes and underground nuclear tests.<sup>2</sup>

A Communiqué in February 1986 announced that the Government had approved \$3.2 million for an upgrade to the seismic array station in Yellowknife.

<sup>1</sup> "SSEA Address to Fortieth Session of the United Nations" Disarmament Bulletin, Autumn 1985, p. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.