

We have also extended our efforts beyond peacekeeping to "peacebuilding," which is aimed at preventing the recurrence of conflict. We undertook this role in Namibia, El Salvador and Cambodia. Peacebuilding will also be the basis for the UN's post-enforcement operations in Somalia.

Needless to say, planning for such a wide range of roles and activities is a tremendous task. We have always begun our planning by applying a set of criteria to each request for a new mission. These criteria have been useful in assessing the likelihood of success and, to date, they have served us well. However, some of the new missions stretch the limits of the criteria. Clearly, therefore, we must re-examine them, and we are doing so.

But no matter how deserving the requests are today, there are other factors to consider beyond the criteria I have referred to -- and they are personnel and funding constraints. To be quite frank, we are reaching the limits of what we can do with the resources at our disposal. And so we must examine thoroughly the ways to maintain a balance between peacekeeping and our other defence responsibilities.

First of all, we must consider personnel. The regular component of the Canadian Forces is being cut back by 14 per cent over a six-year period. This is a rather substantial reduction, considering our commitments. In 1989, there were 87,000 "Regulars." Today the Regular Force is down to 81,000, and it should be down to 75,000 by 1995/96.

In contrast to the Regular Force, the Reserves are undergoing an expansion. In fact, they have already been enlarged from 22,000 to 27,000 in the last four years, and they will continue to grow, peaking at 40,000 by the end of the nineties. Most of the expansion will occur in the Land Forces, which coincidentally bears the largest burden of peacekeeping operations.

The implementation of the Total Force, under which Regular and Reserve training and operations are being increasingly integrated, has allowed us to draw peacekeepers from among those Reservists who volunteer. There are no barriers to their employment in this role, and, as their numbers indicate, they are keen to take on the task. Today, more than 470, or a full 10 per cent of our peacekeeping troops serving abroad, are Reservists.

There has been some suggestion that our Forces should be trained specifically for peacekeeping duty. However, it has been our experience that the best peacekeeper is a well-trained soldier, sailor, airman or airwoman. This is not to say that we forego special preparation altogether. Officers selected for observer duty attend a special course, while units routinely spend two to three months, and oftentimes more, preparing for their mission. In fact, there are specific readiness