

Karl Deutsch, the integration theorist, long ago described as "a security community" which "exist among independent states which do not expect or fear the use of force in relations between them" – but this goal is the one clearly and urgently prescribed by the Charter of Paris.

It is significant that the process of arms reduction and control is already encountering serious resistance. The disproportionate conventional arms reductions by the Soviet Union in the first CFE agreement seem to have made the Soviet military reluctant to accept intrusive verification as well. So far, there have been limited reductions, if any, in the production of major weapons in East or West. The level of economic desperation in the Soviet Union is such that it will be an intractable problem for any Soviet government to dismantle the military industry rapidly; it is one of the relatively few areas of the economy that at least continues to function at some level.

Similarly, inertia prevails in much of the military industrial capability in the West where many people have seized on evidence of Soviet slowness and/or developments elsewhere in the world, like the Iraqi aggression, to justify business as usual in military spending, research and development. It is true, as well, and should be underlined that an arena like the North Pacific has been much less affected than Europe by warming East-West relations. The Cold War has not ended for the Japanese and they certainly drive home the message very strongly that North Americans and Western Europeans are giving great credit and assistance to the Soviet Union when Moscow has done comparatively little to meet Japanese concerns, especially over the disputed Northern Islands. It is possible that President Gorbachev's visit to Tokyo next April will break the log-jam.

Some of the military technologies which are evolving and are continuing to be modernized involve Canada directly. The possibilities exist that we will actually have to spend more on aerial surveillance and defence, and research into space-based surveillance systems because of still-expanding bomber and cruise missile capabilities. The next NORAD renewal exercise – due to be completed in May 1991 – will test the respective strategic assessments of Washington and Ottawa and their views on the future of joint approaches to continental defence.

This range of issues in the East-West relationship reveals a number of continuing problems, but it remains true that there is a special opportunity that should be seized to achieve as much reduction of tension and weaponry as possible. Further rounds of Conventional Forces