PREFACE

The Act of Parliament which created the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security in August 1984 stipulated that:

"The purpose of the Institute is to increase knowledge and understanding of the issues relating to international peace and security from a Canadian perspective, with particular emphasis on arms control, disarmament, defence and conflict resolution, and to

a) foster, fund and conduct research on matters relating to international peace and security;

b) promote scholarship in matters relating to international peace and security;

c) study and propose ideas and policies for the enhancement of international peace and security; and,

d) collect and disseminate information on, and encourage public discussion of issues of international peace and security."

In order to meet some of these objective, the Institute has organized a series of annual conferences.

When he launched the International Year of Peace, on 1 January 1986, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary-General of the United Nations stated, in part, that: "Humanity stands today at a crossroad. The path of the future remains open, subject to a choice which has yet to be made. One road leads to peace, the other to self-destruction. As military expenditures continue to rise and ever more sophisticated weapons and technology are developed, the threat of nuclear annihilation has reached a critical juncture. This is not, however, the only challenge of our time. The world today must also confront the hardships caused by regional and local conflicts, the debilitating effects of disease and poverty, the misery of famine and natural disaster. It is time to act on behalf of the future well-being of all nations with the vision and forbearance that peace requires."

In this spirit the CIIPS Conference which was held at the Delta Winnipeg on 3 to 5 November 1988, addressed "Challenges to Canadian Security in the Year 2000."

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