

development than was previously the case. During the Sixties, also, a number of studies concluded that although problems would ensue for certain industries should military spending be reduced significantly, these difficulties would not be insoluble.

In the light of these factors, the United Nations in 1978 directed that an expert group undertake a study on the relationship between disarmament and development more explicitly, to determine how disarmament can contribute to the establishment of the new international economic order. Among other things, the study will investigate measures to minimize transitional difficulties which may arise in moving from military to non-military industrial production. It will examine, for example, advance planning for change-overs, phased withdrawal from military production, worker retraining on relocation, identification of new markets and such policy options as tax concessions, subsidies and compensation. Should the results of the study reassure those whose employment now depends on military production, they can help in lessening the resistance to disarmament which inherently accompanies such employment.

Canada's contributions

Canada is contributing to this massive study in a number of ways. The Department of External Affairs has funded two studies dealing with the impact of Canadian and American military expenditures and the impact of disarmament on the Canadian economy. At the time when the comprehensive UN study is completed and made public in September of 1981, the government of Canada will publish a version of it designed for popular reading by the public, again in an effort to heighten public awareness of the issues and lessen anxieties about the effects of disarmament.

Canada's commitment to advancing the disarmament process is exemplified in a number of other steps which have been taken. One is our recent appointment of Mr. Arthur Menzies, formerly our Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, to be our Ambassador-at-Large for Disarmament. We are also gratified that a distinguished Canadian diplomat, Mr. Robert Ford, has been asked to join the Palme Commission on disarmament and security issues. This is an independent group of eminent persons which will study and report on the problems of disarmament.

Problem of refugees

Before closing, I want to touch on one other aspect of military conflict which impinges directly on many developing countries. This is the tragic phenomenon of millions of refugees who have flooded into developing countries in recent years in the aftermath of armed conflicts. In almost every case, the nations which have had to bear the burden of these massive population movements have been developing countries — countries whose precarious economies are marginal at best and who can ill-afford the burden of providing for additional populations. It is presently estimated that about ten million people today are refugees. And the number has been growing at an estimated rate of 3,000 persons a day over the past three years.

This phenomenon is demonstrated dramatically in the horn of Africa, in Pakistan and in Southeast Asia. As one example, in Somalia at the present time there are approximately 800,000 refugees living in camps and a similar number living outside camps. We are told that the situation is getting worse. Although some international food aid has been forthcoming, nevertheless the Somali government has had to