

government officials and the difficulty of controlling transfers of personnel between military and civilian organizations<sup>4</sup>.

### **Early Post-war Discussions on General and Complete Disarmament**

For some years after World War II a variety of initiatives were launched, in the hope of preventing further wars. Before anything concrete was accomplished, the "Cold War" intervened, poisoning international relations and producing rearmament rather than disarmament. By the early 1960s, the main focus of discussions had changed from General and Complete Disarmament towards specific measures aimed at the abolition of nuclear weapons, prevention of surprise attack, limitation on strategic weapons, control of nuclear testing and nuclear proliferation, and chemical weapons.

In over 21,000 pages of "Documents on Disarmament"<sup>5</sup>, covering the main international discussions from 1945 to 1982, the subject of personnel limitation often appears in the first few years after the war. But after 1952 personnel is hardly mentioned, until the discussions which led up the formal negotiations on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions in 1973. Some discussion of the observation of personnel strength occurs after 1958, but in connection with measures to obtain warning of surprise attack rather than consideration of the verification of negotiated limitations. Personnel limitations were also mentioned in wider discussions relating to General and Complete Disarmament during the early 1960s.

In July 1950, the United States (USA) delegation to the Working Committee of the UN Commission for Conventional Armaments submitted a paper outlining the information which would need to be presented preliminary to inspection and verification of reductions in conventional armed forces<sup>6</sup>. Military and paramilitary forces were to be included, and extensive information on these military forces and their deployments was to be exchanged in the form of separate reports on personnel, deployment, material, bases and facilities. Verification focused on the review of a variety of records and on ground and aerial OSI as indicated in the following extract:

"V. ITEMS TO WHICH ACCESS MUST BE PROVIDED IN THE VERIFICATION PHASE OF SAFEGUARDS

"A. Personnel Report Verification

1. Personnel accounting systems
2. Disbursing records
3. Unit muster rolls
4. Medical records
5. Ration records