

Landmine Monitor Report

Toward a Mine-Free World

2000



The second annual *Landmine Monitor Report*, launched at the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Ottawa Convention, September 2000.

program of American universities; and disbursements totalling \$45,000 to support a series of Concerts for a Landmine Free World in California, featuring music stars Sheryl Crow, Emmy Lou Harris and Steve Earle.

Another important element in building support for the Convention has been military-to-military dialogue. In fiscal year 1999, Canada supported the deployment of former commander of the Canadian Army, Lieutenant General (Ret) Gordon Reay, to Bangladesh, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Georgia to enter into these dialogues. By engaging in discussions with foreign militaries, Canada is outlining the questionable military utility of anti-personnel mines and explaining how military operations can be adapted to eliminate their use.

Monitoring compliance

Unlike traditional arms control agreements, the Ottawa Convention does not contain a formal verification mechanism or monitoring system. For this reason, Canada believes it is essential that there are independent sources of information on the implementation of, and compliance with, the Convention's obligations.

To assist in this effort, DFAIT's Mine Monitoring Program provided \$200,000 in fiscal year 1999 to the ICBL for its Landmine Monitor initiative. Landmine Monitor involves a global network of non-governmental researchers who contribute to a 1000+ page annual report on states' efforts to implement the Ottawa Convention and their policies and behaviour with respect to anti-personnel mines. The first annual *Landmine Monitor Report* was released in May of 1999. The second was released

in September 2000 at the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention. Canada was the first state to support the Landmine Monitor initiative, providing \$450,000 for the project in 1998-99.

A PP MI-SR II bounding mine before and after destruction.

Destroying stockpiles

The Ottawa Convention requires that states destroy stockpiled anti-personnel mines within four years of the Convention's entry into force. It also obliges states in a position to do so to assist others



L. Col. Normand Levert/DND