

full part in the conferences on these subjects to be convened in 1973. In preparation for the talks, the North Atlantic Council and its committees played a key role in developing and co-ordinating the views of individual NATO countries with respect to the principal problems under negotiation.

Throughout the year, Canada played a prominent role in the alliance's continuing efforts to attain military stability and political *détente*, and to promote co-operation in many other fields among the NATO allies. Thus, the Secretary of State for External Affairs extended an invitation at the December ministerial meeting of the NATO Council to host the plenary meeting of the NATO Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society. The invitation was accepted and the plenary, held in April, 1973, was the first to take place outside NATO Headquarters in Brussels.

NORAD

The Government's White Paper on defence, published in August, 1971, stated that Canada's objective in North American defence co-operation was: "... to make, within the limits of our resources, an effective contribution to continued stability by assisting in the surveillance and warning systems and in the protection of the U.S. retaliatory capability as necessary. Cooperation between Canada and the U.S. in the joint defence of North America is vital for sovereignty and security". The Permanent Joint Board on Defence is the principal consultative mechanism for Canada-U.S. co-operation in defence questions. The Bureau of Defence and Arms Control Affairs provides the External Affairs member and the Canadian secretary of the PJBD, while the Department of National Defence provides the balance of membership of the Canadian section. The Board held four meetings in 1972 and considered a wide variety of questions affecting bilateral arrangements for the defence of North America. Its considerations should assist the Government in reaching a decision in 1973 concerning the renewal of the NORAD Agreement.

The Department co-ordinated the Canadian Government's examination of the future of the areas leased by the United States at Goose Bay, Labrador; the lease

was originally scheduled to expire on December 5, 1972. As a first step, it was arranged with the United States that the lease be extended to June 30, 1973, in order to permit more time for the preparation of a long-range economic plan for the area. Meanwhile, negotiations commenced on a plan for the base to be taken over and operated by the Canadian Government.

Peace-keeping

Despite the frustrations and disappointments of a number of previous peace-keeping operations, Canada continued to support the peace-keeping concept in 1972, and sought to use Canadian experience to develop guidelines for effective operations. Its policy was that Canada would seriously consider requests for participating in peace-keeping ventures when an operation was seen to hold the promise of success and it was felt that we could play a useful role.

In 1972, Canadian military personnel continued to serve with the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization in the Middle East (UNTSO), the United Nations Military Observer Group India-Pakistan (UNMOGIP) in Kashmir, and the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Canada's largest contribution to United Nations peacekeeping continued to be the 580-man contingent in Cyprus. In December, the Security Council extended the mandate of the Force until 1973, and Canada agreed to maintain its contingent for the same period. The continued United Nations presence in Cyprus was considered necessary to assist in the maintenance of stability while the slow search for a political settlement continued.

Military training assistance

Canada's modest military training assistance programme, instituted in response to requests from developing countries, was continued in 1972. Canada's small but highly-trained professional forces are well-suited to provide the impartial assistance required by a number of developing countries which lack the qualified manpower and the facilities to conduct their own programmes in all fields of military training.