

57,000 weapon systems that it had moved out of the Treaty zone prior to November 1990. It was agreed that the Soviet Union would maintain its disputed coastal defence and naval infantry units on the condition that these units not be expanded. It was also agreed that the equipment of the Strategic Rocket Forces would be exempt from the Treaty limits by considering them internal security forces. The other signatories gave binding declarations which accepted the Soviet pledges.

#### CURRENT CANADIAN POSITION

At the signing ceremony in Paris, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney signed the CFE Treaty on behalf of Canada. Canada has consistently supported the pursuit of an agreement limiting conventional armed forces in Europe and strongly supports the CFE Treaty. In negotiating and completing the Treaty, the Canadian delegation made a particular contribution in developing the verification and monitoring procedures.

A Government news release issued on the day the Treaty was signed stated:

The arms control provisions of CFE are unprecedented in scope. CFE makes a historically significant contribution to security and stability in Europe, to which Europeans and North Americans have aspired since the end of World War II.<sup>2</sup>

The agreement to postpone negotiation on aerial inspection measures left open the question of how such measures might complement or be complemented by an Open Skies regime (see *The Guide, 1990*). David Peel, the head of the Canadian delegation to the CFE negotiations, suggested in a statement to the CFE negotiations that Open Skies remain separate from aerial inspection measures for the CFE Treaty.<sup>3</sup> He noted that Open Skies fulfils a confidence-building role while aerial inspection measures should be geared specifically to verifying the terms of the CFE Treaty. However, Mr. Peel went on to suggest that the order of negotiation be reversed so that Open Skies could be coordinated with the CFE aims. He stated:

Although we originally preferred parallel development of Open Skies and aerial inspection regimes, we now see a definite advantage in a sequential approach with priority being given to Open Skies.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Government of Canada. "Canada Signs Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe," *News Release*, 19 November 1990.

<sup>3</sup>David Peel. "CFE and Open Skies," excerpts, *The Disarmament Bulletin*, no. 15, Winter 1990/91: 10-11.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid.: 11.