

All of us should be encouraged by the Clinton Administration's willingness to work in partnership with other members of the international community. Multilateralism can be frustrating, particularly when your country has long been asked to carry more than its fair share of the burden. Americans have every right to look to the rest of the world to do its part.

For that matter, so do we in Canada.

Consider the fact that Canada's assessed contributions to the UN have grown from \$8 million to almost \$90 million annually. At one point last year, Canadians represented some 10 percent of forces involved in peacekeeping missions. Is it any wonder that we are also looking for other countries to pick up their fair share?

We believe in peacekeeping. We have had more experience with it than any other country in the world. With the third largest peacekeeping contingent in the former Yugoslavia, with peacekeepers in Cambodia, the Middle East and elsewhere, obviously Canada remains firmly committed to making its contribution.

For example, in September 1991, Prime Minister Mulroney led the call for the UN Security Council to deal with the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Since April 1992, we have deployed some 2400 troops and 45 Royal Canadian Mounted Police monitors with the UN Protection Force. Another 12 Canadian soldiers are deployed with a CSCE [Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe] mission.

We have provided over \$38 million worth of humanitarian assistance. This July, we contributed \$250 000 to the Canadian Red Cross for medical personnel and relief action for 230 abandoned patients, mostly children. And we are continuing to explore ways of helping the victims of this tragic conflict.

Our role in peacekeeping has been a source of national pride from the very first day former Prime Minister Lester Pearson came up with the idea during the Suez Crisis.

We see it in a broad international context. We are conscious of the fact that our security and prosperity depend on a strong and stable international community, based on the rule of law and effective international institutions.

This is not just my view or the Government's. It is also the opinion of the vast majority of Canadians.

Let's look at some of the specific reforms needed to make the UN more effective.