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Changing Relations . . . continued from page 37

Finland, last September.

In both the IASC and the Rovaniemi discussions, Canada has found itself working in parallel with the USSR and, to some extent, at cross purposes with the U.S. Where the IASC is concerned, Ottawa and Moscow have joined in asserting the primacy of regional-state interests. On the other hand, possibly modelling what has emerged at the other end of the globe, in Antarctica, Washington has just as adamantly advocated a role for non-Arctic countries such as France, the United Kingdom and West Germany.

As to the Rovaniemi process, whereas the U.S. was barely represented at the initial meeting, Canadians worked closely with the Soviets in making a seminal contribution to getting the negotiations off to a good start.

New Alliance Emerging

The key point is that Canada has quietly taken up a key role in Arctic institution-building for scientific and environmental matters. In so doing, we have not hesitated to join with our traditional military adversary in resisting the preferences of our principal ally. Moreover, when in Moscow, Mr. Mulroney raised the question of creating an Arctic Council to consider more widespread co-operation on non-military or civil issues of common concern to the regional countries. The matter is to be discussed further with the Soviets.

All of this is decidedly forward-looking. It is quite in keeping with the transition of East-West relations from the Cold War agenda to a new order of the day — one that features international institution-building designed to address global needs for economic co-operation, environmental protection, sustainable development and common responses to climatic change.

But Canada's handling of Arctic military problems is quite another matter. Proposals have been made within Canada, for example by the Canadian Centre for Arms Control and Disarmament, that call for this country's leadership in negotiating a demilitarized zone in the area of the Arctic Ocean seaward of the 200-mile exclusive economic management zone.

Not a lot of military activity occurs there and its prohibition of any such activity could set in train a process of regional demilitarization similar to that obtained in Antarctica as long ago as 1959.

Canada "Deaf" to New Proposal?

An Arctic "open skies" plan also has been put forward, as have proposals to accord the USSR a sanctuary for its ballistic missile-firing submarines in the Barents Sea area in return for an equivalent American sanctuary in non-Arctic waters. To these and similar propositions that would begin to constrain and stabilize Arctic military-strategic interaction, Ottawa evidently has turned a deaf ear.

The Department of External Affairs and DND argue that Arctic arms control and confidence-building measures must be the progeny not of Arctic co-operation but of extra-regional negotiation between the alliances in Europe or directly between the USSR and the U.S.

Procedural arguments are being used to justify inaction, to maintain a deterrence posture toward the USSR and what remains of the Warsaw Pact, and even to deal Canada out of the discussions about Arctic security. The very thought of Canadian involvement in building a new military relationship among the Arctic countries remains, on the surface at least, official heresy in Ottawa.

So there we have it. As adversarial relations between East and West are dismantled, Canada's approach to the Soviet Union in the Arctic has become one of innovation on civil issues but contradictory stagnation on military ones. What is true for the Arctic could become true for our Soviet policy as a whole.

Having come part way toward a more civil relationship with Moscow, the Canadian government balks when it comes to co-operation in the military sphere. Brezhnev is alive, if not well, in Ottawa.

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AMMAN — Petro-Canada International Assistance Corp. has committed up to \$15 million in additional support over the next two years for equipment, training, advisers and technical support for hydrocarbon exploration programs in Jordan. The extra funds increase to a potential \$47 million the goods and services being provided to the Jordanian Natural Resources Authority by mainly Western Canadian suppliers. A drilling rig and ancillary equipment are being supplied and, starting this month, advisers are being posted to Jordan. Seis-

tracts to supply the Canadian International Development Agency with flour for food aid. It is alleged that the price-fixing involved more than \$500 million worth of flour provided for in 531 contracts from October, 1985 through to August, 1987. Charges under the Competition Act were laid against Maple Leaf Mills Ltd., Robin Hood Multifoods and Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd., all of Toronto; Ogilvie Flour Mills Ltd. of Montreal; Dover Industries Ltd. of Burlington, Ont.; Soo Line Mills Ltd. of Winnipeg; B.P. Kent Flour Mills Ltd. of Virden, Manitoba; and Rogers Foods Ltd. of Armstrong, B.C. Most of the flour involved was exported to China, with lesser volumes going to other countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, including emergency relief.

BRUSSELS — It appears as though Canada's five-year lobby to have a \$500-million North Atlantic Treaty Organization fighter training base established in Labrador has been unsuccessful. Prime Minister Mulroney has hinted that government support for the project is slipping — possibly because of the intense opposition from local native groups and their supporters — and now there are suggestions out of NATO headquarters to the effect that the base will be situated in Turkey. The final decision is expected to be made at a meeting of NATO defence ministers here next month.

OTTAWA — Among 28 Parliamentary Secretaries reappointed recently by Prime Minister Mulroney as understudies to cabinet ministers are the two who deal with External Affairs and International Trade. The former is Toronto-area MP Patrick Boyer, a lawyer first elected to the House of Commons in 1984; the latter is veteran Alberta MP Jack Shields, a businessman first elected in 1980.

WINNIPEG — More than a year and a half after it was promised during the 1988 federal election campaign, the government has announced the establishment of a new International Institute for Sustainable Development. Environment Minister Lucien Bouchard, in a joint announcement with Premier Gary Filmon of Manitoba, said the non-profit body is "dedicated to promoting the principles of sustainable development at the national and international level."

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TEGUCIGALPA — Responding to a request from the United Nations, Canada has sent four military CH-135 Twin Hueys to support four CH-139 Jet Rangers assigned last year to the UN Observer Group (ONUCA) in Central America. The UN had requested helicopters with light-lift capability. An additional 47 personnel from Canadian Forces Bases Petawawa, Valcartier and Edmonton are providing operational support. The total Canadian contingent with ONUCA now is 169.

OTTAWA — Eight Canadian flour-milling companies have been charged by the Bureau of Competition Policy with rigging bids for 12 years on con-

The original federal commitment of \$5 million annually over five years, provided through the Canadian International Development Agency, has been scaled down to \$3.7 million but is being augmented by Environment Canada, the Manitoba government and, eventually, private sources.

OTTAWA — As indicated in the previous issue, there is a concerted move to ease the international restrictions on high-technology exports to Eastern Europe. While the issue still is being debated inconclusively by the 17 signatories to the pact establishing the Co-ordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Control (Cocom), senior External Affairs officials are telling industry to press for exemptions that would facilitate exports. Michael Fine, Deputy Director of the Technology Export Controls Division, points out that the Export Controls List is designed to "control" exports, not to "ban" them. He says industry elsewhere seems more aware of that distinction than industry here. Companies in the Cocom countries were granted 95 per cent of the 2,500 exemptions they sought last year but there were only about 20 applications in Canada. But industry responds by saying that "six months is a good turnaround time" on applications - too long for most companies.

MONTREAL — Work is well under way on the Jeanne Sauve Youth Foundation, which the former Governor-General hopes will "nurture a sense of involvement" by bringing together "young people between the ages of 18 and 25, who have demonstrated their desire and ability to exercise leadership, to discuss issues of global concern." The federal government is providing \$5 million of the more than \$8.5 million in funds pledged to date with Ontario contributing \$2 million and Quebec 1.5 million. There also is undisclosed private support for the Foundation but it is estimated that a further \$8 million will be needed to make the charitable organization self-sustaining.

OTTAWA — As part of Canada's concerted crackdown on the narcotics trade, the government is considering a requirement that financial institutions and their