

fire agreement which represents a vital first step in efforts to end the eight-year Iran-Iraq war.

Canada is contributing a fully self-sustained communications unit which will be responsible for all of the Observer Force's communication requirements along the entire 1,200 kilometre border between Iran and Iraq. In addition to this communications unit, which will comprise close to 500 Canadian Forces personnel, Canada has agreed to provide 15 officers to assist at UNIIIMOG headquarters and observer positions on the Force.

The Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the announcement by the United Nations Secretary-General of the August 20 cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq war and commended both parties for having reached this agreement. They conveyed their appreciation to Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar for his unstinting efforts that have brought the prospect of peace to this region of the Gulf.

Other Operations

Since the Second World War, Canada has participated in 16 forces and observer missions under UN auspices and in four peacekeeping operations outside the United Nations. In addition to UNGOMAP, Canada is actively involved in four peacekeeping operations in Cyprus and the Middle East, three of which are under UN auspices. These operations are:

a) the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). The mission was established in 1948 to supervise cease-fire and armistice agreements between Israel and surrounding Arab states. The UNTSO headquarters is in Jerusalem. Canada provides 22 officer observers to UNTSO.

b) the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). The operation was established in 1974 to supervise the areas of separation and limitations between Syrian and Israeli forces on the Golan Heights, and Canada has participated from the outset. The Canadian contingent of 226 personnel, based at Camp Ziouani in Israeli-occupied territory, provides logistics and communication support, a role shared with Poland.

c) the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Canada has contributed forces to UNFICYP since its inception in 1964. Currently, Canada provides a contingent of 575 officers and other ranks. The role of UNFICYP is to supervise cease-fire agreements between Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot forces.

d) the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO). This mission was established in 1981 to monitor security provisions of the 1979 Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty. Canada joined in April 1985, providing up to nine helicopters and 140 personnel to form a Rotary Wing Aviation Unit and to fill certain headquarters staff positions.

In assessing potential peacekeeping commitments, Canada has developed a set of prerequisites, which a proposed mission should meet if it is to enjoy a reasonable measure of success. These prerequisites underline Canada's view that peacekeeping is not an end in itself; its purpose is not only to prevent conflict but also to create conditions in which the search for solutions to the underlying causes of conflict take place, the process of "peacemaking." For this reason, Canada has stressed the inter-

dependence of the peacemaking activities of political negotiators and peacekeeping operations, along with the importance of pursuing both with vigour and determination. Some of the more important prerequisites are as follows:

- the peacekeeping endeavour should be associated with an agreement for political settlement;
- the peacekeeping organization should be responsible to a political authority, preferably the United Nations;
- the peacekeeping mission must have a clear mandate which enjoys the support to all parties of the dispute;
- there should be an agreed and equitable method of financing the operation; and
- participation should serve important Canadian foreign policy interests.

Peacekeeping is likely to remain a continuing feature of our international relations, an important aspect of our participation in United Nations activities, and a significant complement to our efforts in the field of arms control and disarmament in the pursuit of peace and security. □



Canadian soldiers on United Nations peacekeeping duties patrol the "Green Line" in Nicosia, Cyprus.

Canadian Forces Photo