

During the period of "armed peace" from February 1 to December 15, 1992, several serious disputes arose between the Salvadoran government and the FMLN about the interpretation and implementation of the peace accords. Mediation by representatives of the United Nations achieved compromise from both sides on such critical issues as land distribution and the schedule for the demobilization of combatants.

Two important undertakings made in the peace accords remain to be completed. President Cristiani has promised to act, by December 31, 1992, on the report of the Ad Hoc Commission which named military officers that it recommended be relieved of duty. The Truth Commission continues to investigate major incidents of human rights violations which occurred during the civil war, although its final report is not expected until early in 1993.

### CANADIAN POSITION

At the 48th session of the UNCHR, with regard to the peace settlement in El Salvador, Canada supported the appointment of an Independent Expert with a new mandate to observe and report on the human rights situation. At this year's UNGA, the Canadian government's continuing concerns about the human rights situation in El Salvador were again raised in its statement before the Third Committee.

The Canadian Embassy in Guatemala, which is accredited to El Salvador, has in the past year made direct interventions to the Government of El Salvador on a number of high profile human rights cases.

Canada supports the reconstruction and reconciliation process in El Salvador. To this end, CIDA has, to date, provided \$ 1.6 million to projects which will strengthen democratic institutions and integrate former combatants into civil society.

### POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

- What is the most appropriate approach to El Salvador by CHR 49 in the context of the ongoing Security Council-mandated peace process ?