

PREFACE

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The legislation which created the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security in 1984 states that "the purpose of the Institute is to increase knowledge and understanding of the issues relating to international peace and security from a Canadian perspective, with particular emphasis on arms control, disarmament, defence and conflict resolution." An annual review of peace and security issues, and the Canadian response to them, will, we think, contribute to and encourage public discussion and thereby help to increase knowledge and understanding.

This first review was written by Geoffrey Pearson, Executive Director of the Institute. The Institute's Board of Directors saw the paper in advance, and while some offered comment, the judgements and conclusions of the paper are those of the author.

On the other hand, conflicts in Africa continued to frustrate efforts to improve the conditions of poverty and starvation, especially in Mozambique, Angola and Ethiopia, and little movement was registered by the UN and elsewhere to effect effort to end war between Iran and Iraq, or to bring about a settlement of the Arab/Israel dispute. Indian military intervention in Sri Lanka underlined the fact that domestic conflict can be as great a threat to peace as international conflict. Yet such internal conflict appears likely to become widespread as population pressures exacerbate ethnic and religious tensions in much of Asia and Africa. These tensions in turn lead governments to increase spending on arms, which is now approaching a trillion US dollars annually, without six