

UNIDIR Expert Group Meeting on Verification Held in Canada



Experts at the Montebello meeting.

The first meeting of a newly-established United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) Expert Group on verification was held October 24 to 27, 1990 at Le Château Montebello in Quebec. The meeting was organized by the York Centre for International

and Strategic Studies under the sponsorship of EAIRC's Verification Research Program.

Canada has been a firm supporter of UNIDIR's work since the Institute's inception. This support has taken several forms, including budgetary contributions, the provision of Canadian experts for selected research tasks and the provision of other assistance, as in the holding of meetings.

The Montebello meeting brought together a total of 16 experts from eight countries to discuss a new UNIDIR research project entitled "Verification: Proposals and Prospects in the Context of Current Negotiations on Disarmament and the Limitation of Armaments." The project is a follow-on

to an earlier UNIDIR study, now completed, on "Verification of Current Disarmament and Arms Limitation Agreements: Ways, Means and Practices."

The purpose of the follow-on project is to assess new problems for and approaches to verification as they appear in current disarmament negotiations and/or discussions. The project will include agreements that are likely to be signed in the near future, such as START. It will not, however, cover arms control and disarmament agreements that have already been signed.

The experts assembled at Montebello defined the issues to be covered by the project, discussed the contents of each submission, and developed a timetable for the Group's work. A second meeting will be held in the USSR in June 1991, with a third meeting to follow in late 1991 or early 1992. The Group's study is scheduled for completion and publication in 1992.

Disarmament Fund Update

Grants and Contributions from the Disarmament Fund, April 1, 1990 - January 1, 1991

CONTRIBUTIONS

1. Peace Education Centre of British Columbia, Vancouver — 1990 "Youth for Global Awareness Conference"	\$3,000
2. John Guy, University of Calgary — participation in Ninth European Nuclear Disarmament Convention	300
3. Science for Peace, Toronto Chapter — University College Lectures in Peace Studies	1,000
4. Parliamentary Centre for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Ottawa — conference on "The Changing Soviet Union: Implications for Canada and the World"	10,000
5. Centre québécois de relations internationales, Laval University, Sainte-Foy, Quebec — conference on "The Germanies in a New Europe"	5,000
6. Mouvement Option Paix, Hull, Quebec — publication of a special issue of the magazine <i>Option Paix</i>	1,000
7. Canadian Centre for Arms Control and Disarmament, Ottawa — symposium on the environmental consequences of increased nuclear testing at Novaya Zemlya	10,000
8. Canadian Centre for Arms Control and Disarmament, Ottawa — conference on "Canadian-Soviet Arctic Cooperation"	5,000
9. Charles Van Der Donckt, Sainte-Foy, Quebec — research on "The Naval Arms Race in South-East Asia: Regional and Strategic Implications"	5,000
TOTAL OF CONTRIBUTIONS	\$40,300

GRANTS

1. Stormway Productions, Inc., Toronto — production of documentary on UN peacekeeping	\$10,000
2. Albert Legault, Laval University, Sainte-Foy, Quebec — research comparing the arms control regimes of outer space and chemical weapons	6,000
3. Alex Morrison, Toronto — study of the verification issue at the United Nations	5,000
4. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, Geneva — verification research	25,000
5. United Nations World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund, New York — communications activities	25,000
TOTAL OF GRANTS	\$71,000

TOTAL OF GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

\$111,300