

the government.

- In the **Peru-Ecuador** border war, the four guarantor countries of the 1942 Rio Protocol intervened rapidly and with some success to broker a settlement in this recurring border conflict. A 40-strong military observation team, MOMEPA, is now located on both sides of the contested border area in the Cenepa River valley.
- In both **Nicaragua** (1990-1993) and **Surinam** (1992) the OAS played an important post-conflict role in the demobilization of insurgents and in the implementation of peace agreements. Both missions have reinforced OAS credentials after a very difficult period for that organization.
- Island-states of the South Pacific, with Australian and New Zealand support, formed a temporary South Pacific Peacekeeping Force (SPPKF) for the Oct. 1994 peace talks held on **Bougainville Island** between the Papua-New Guinea government and Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) rebels. Despite the inconclusive results of the talks, the occasion can be considered a milestone for the region.

By contrast, there have been failures and difficulties:

- In the former **Yugoslavia**, the involvement of the EU, the WEU, the OSCE, NATO, and the UN have made institutional cooperation and coordination a major challenge. It has also demonstrated that the existence of relatively strong regional institutions is not in and of itself a guarantee of better regional crisis management. It must be acknowledged, however, that the Contact Group approach has given some needed flexibility to the peacekeeping efforts.
- In **Liberia** the Nigerian-led ECOWAS Monitoring Group (ECOMOG), hailed by the UN and Western countries as an example of regional self-help, suffered repeated military and political setbacks in its multiple peacemaking attempts. The signing of the latest Ghanaian-mediated peace plan appears to have been prompted both by the possibility of a total ECOMOG and UN pullout and by the sheer exhaustion of the belligerent parties.
- In **Somalia**, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Arab League, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) were ineffective in preventing that country's descent into chaos and played no role in the multiple attempts at peacemaking which followed UNOSOM I.