

During the period under review, Canada's largest peacekeeping commitment remained the provision of a sizable contingent to the United Nations force in Cyprus. At the end of the year, there were approximately 560 Canadians serving with the Force and, pursuant to the extension of UNFICYP's mandate by the Security Council, the Government agreed that Canadian participation be maintained. While conditions on the island remained relatively stable throughout the year, progress towards a political settlement of the problem was discouragingly slow. Nevertheless, a positive factor was the recognition of all parties to the dispute that the inter-communal negotiations should continue, and the presence of the United Nations force was regarded as an important factor in preserving conditions in which these talks could be pursued. Canada also continued to provide military observers for the United Nations Truce Observation Organization in the Middle East, and military observers and aircrew for the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan.

The programs of military assistance that Canada has conducted during the present decade in response to requests from a group of developing countries diminished in size in 1969. This trend will continue as the program in Tanzania is wound up in the beginning of 1970 when its original five-year term is completed. Under this arrangement Canada has, through training in its defence establishments and by the provision of a training and advisory team in Tanzania, assisted that country in the development of its armed forces and has provided it with a military air-transport wing. The other Canadian Armed Forces military assistance team abroad, operating in Ghana, continued at the same level as in 1968 and its work was supplemented by the provision of training in Canada for a few selected members of the Ghanaian armed forces. Within the framework of the military assistance program as a whole, approximately 103 members of the armed forces of ten developing countries received courses in Canada during the year. With the phasing-out of major programs, military assistance activities by Canada will be further restricted in the coming period as a result of measures being undertaken to contain governmental expenditures.

As in the past, the Department continued to assist the National Defence College through the provision of a senior officer to serve as a member of the directing staff and by helping with arrangements for the College's annual North American and overseas tours. In addition, the Office of Politico-Military Affairs arranged to provide officers of the Department to lecture to the College and other Canadian Armed Forces training establishments on various aspects of international affairs. The Office also performs a liaison function in making arrangements for visits to other countries by Canadian naval vessels and arranging for clearances for military overflights and landings.

In 1969 the former Defence Liaison (2) Division was redesignated the Security and Intelligence Liaison Division. Besides providing a channel of communications with the national security authorities on matters of common concern, the Division provides a self-contained unit responsible for organizing and monitoring departmental security at home and abroad. The Division also serves as a co-ordinating link with other departments and agencies which are concerned with the analysis of intelligence data.