

THE ARMY

THE MOST REMARKABLE THING about the Canadian Army is that it ceased to exist in 1968.

It became part of the Canadian Armed Forces — a single group under a single head — which today holds in reasonable harmony and identical green uniforms the former members of the Army, the Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Canadian Air Force.

The CAF is in some respects unique and in many unusual:

—It is, in the Canadian tradition, a force of volunteers. It recruits by advertisement and has little difficulty attracting and maintaining officers and men, but its strength, by design, is declining. It has coalesced from 126,474 in 1962 to its present 88,496.

—It performs many basically nonmilitary jobs.

Its men flew aid and evacuation planes to Peru during the 1970 earthquake and to Pakistan during the floods. Divers went down into the freezing and oily waters of Chedabucto Bay in Nova Scotia to pierce the holds of the sunken tanker Arrow and pump out thousands of tons of oil which otherwise might have leaked out to destroy the fish and dirty the beaches. Pilots conduct pollution patrols of coastal and Arctic waters. Research is underway to make greater use of the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the heavy ice season. —The caste system is somewhat less than in some other services. For example, the green uniform covers the commissioned and noncommissioned alike.

"The same cloth will be used for officers and men," as the Minister of National Defence said

White Paper on Defence

IN THE WHITE PAPER ON DEFENCE, issued late last month, the Department of National Defence outlined and explained present and future policies. The document reasserted the objectives of defence policy as stated by Prime Minister Trudeau in April 1969. Primary emphasis is placed on the aim of maintaining Canada as an independent entity, safeguarding sovereignty and independence, and the attainment of peace and security.

Four major areas of activity for Canadian Forces are identified:

- surveillance of Canadian territory and coastlines in protection of sovereignty;
- defence of North America in cooperation with United States Forces;
- fulfillment of NATO commitments; and
- performance of such international peacekeeping roles as may be assumed.

HIGHLIGHTS of the White Paper on Defence:

Increased military surveillance of Canada's land, waters and airspace for national security to permit greater surveillance support for other government departments, such as Energy, Mines and Resources, and Environment.

Canada to contribute to the continued effectiveness of the deterrent system for North America until alternate means are found to

maintain peace.

Forces to continue to be prepared to react quickly in aid of the civil power in containing civil disorder.

BOMARC anti-aircraft missiles sited in Canada will be retired; interceptor aircraft to be maintained at the current level for bomber defence, peacetime identification, and sovereign control of airspace.

Canada to continue to station forces in Europe with NATO and to designate other forces in Canada for Europe in the event of an emergency. Land forces will be re-equipped and reconfigured for tactical reconnaissance missions, and backup air support from Canada will cover NATO's northern flank.

Positive consideration to be given, when warranted, to requests for Canadian participation in international peacekeeping.

The defence budget freeze will be ended in 1972-73, one year ahead of schedule. The budget will remain within about one per cent of the present \$1.8 billion ceiling for 1972-73.

A summary of the White Paper on Defence is available from the Canadian Embassy, Washington; copies of the Paper itself may be obtained from Information Canada, Ottawa, Canada, for \$1.00 pp.