

## IV

### DEFENCE AFFAIRS

Canada has for many years participated in collective security arrangements as a contribution to the foreign policy objective of maintaining international peace and stability. The defence activity thus entailed reflects the interrelationship between foreign and defence policies which requires close daily co-operation between the Departments of External Affairs and of National Defence, as well as consultation with other departments concerned with defence questions. The intimate connection between our foreign and defence policies is manifested at the Parliamentary level by the House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs and Defence, and at the executive level by the Cabinet Committee on External Affairs and Defence.

The Department of External Affairs' responsibility for foreign policy questions which have defence implications is assigned to the Office of Politico-Military Affairs, which comprises the North American Defence and NATO Division and the Peacekeeping and Military Assistance Division. This Office was established in 1968 as a result of the reorganization of the former Defence Liaison (1) Division. Defence Liaison (2) Division, the designation of which has not been changed, is also concerned with matters involving Canada's international commitments and activities in the defence field. These divisions are responsible for the greater part of the liaison between the Departments of External Affairs and National Defence. Continuous liaison is maintained between the two departments and others which may be concerned from time to time with defence questions. Besides day-to-day liaison, the Office of Politico-Military Affairs represents the Department regularly at meetings of the Defence Council of the Department of National Defence, and other committees of officials from the two departments. During 1968, the Office of Politico-Military Affairs was directly involved in the review of Canadian foreign and defence policies being undertaken by the Government and was represented on a number of working groups.

In the area of continental defence the most important development during the year was the renewal of the North American Air Defence Agreement with the United States for a further period of five years from May 12, 1968. The Office was directly involved in the renegotiation of this Agreement.

The Office continued to provide the External Affairs member and the Secretary of the Canadian Section of the Permanent Joint Board on Defence. The Office also represented the Department at meetings of the Canada-U.S.A. Civil Emergency Planning Committee.

Pursuant to Canadian membership in NATO, the Department, through the Office of Politico-Military Affairs, provided regular guidance for the Canadian Permanent Delegation for regular weekly meetings of the North Atlantic Council and its committees and for meetings at the ministerial level. At the spring ministerial meeting of NATO foreign ministers in Reykjavik in June, Canada joined in reaffirming NATO's intention to