

cence. Consequently, confidence must exist that the requisite defence budget will be forthcoming before a nuclear submarine acquisition contract is finalized. Otherwise it may be done at the expense of other equipment requirements of the Canadian Forces.

#### OTHER REGIONS AND ISSUES

There are conditions of instability and conflict in various other regions of the world, some of which threaten international peace and security. A greater disposition toward cooperation between the superpowers could have a moderating influence on the danger of escalation of local conflicts, and could enhance the acceptability of a UN role. On the other hand, the growing trend toward regional solutions may decrease the opportunities for UN peacekeeping.

While the military dimension of Third World conflicts appears frequently to be the predominant factor, it is in most instances only the consequences of underlying political, economic and social conditions. Any attempt to reduce or resolve such conflicts must therefore come to grips with the root causes of economic disparities and social grievances, and not simply the symptoms of instability. Moreover, as long as such conflicts rage, they consume resources more vitally required to reverse serious environmental degradation which is assuming global proportions. Thus it is clear that military responses alone can only be inadequate and ineffective.

Closest to home and most prominent in terms of Canadian public interest is Central America. There the double pressure of internal uprising and outside intervention has prompted the countries concerned to try, under the Arias plan, to find a regional solution. Progress has been slow but encouraging, aided on the one hand by the failure of the US-backed Contras