

innovative verification provisions of the INF Agreement, the continuing discussions between the USA and USSR on verifying a nuclear test ban, and the challenge inspections conducted pursuant to the Stockholm Document, are all examples of such developments. Verification remains at the very heart of the arms control and disarmament process: for without agreement on effective verification measures there can be no meaningful arms control or disarmament.³

On 23 August 1988, Mr. de Montigny Marchand, Canadian Ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament (CD), announced that Canada would be hosting a technical workshop on seismic data exchange for verification of a nuclear test ban.⁴ The workshop, to be held at Yellowknife in September 1989, will focus on remaining obstacles to a worldwide seismological network for verifying such a ban.

On 18 October 1988, in a speech to the First Committee at the Forty-third Session of the UN General Assembly, Canadian Ambassador Yves Fortier addressed the possible role of the UN in verification:

The Canadian Government...firmly believes that the United Nations can have a significant role in promoting and facilitating effective verification. We have therefore examined closely and in a positive spirit various proposals which have been made for a UN role in verification.... Our central concern is to ensure that the UN can acquire an appropriate role in verification which will strengthen the arms control and disarmament process by facilitating the conclusion and implementation of agreements and will enhance the authority and credibility of the United Nations system.⁵

In October 1988, the Strategic Studies Programme of the University of Calgary hosted a conference on verification of a chemical weapons ban. Sponsored by the Verification Research Programme of the Department of External Affairs, the conference examined the extent to which International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards could serve as a model for the verification of chemical weapons.⁶

On 7 December 1988, at the Forty-third Session of the UN General Assembly, Canada co-sponsored Resolution 43/81B calling upon the UN Secretary-General to initiate

³ Speech by the Ambassador for Disarmament to the United Nations Disarmament Commission, New York, 3 May 1989.

⁴ Statement by Ambassador de Montigny Marchand before the Conference on Disarmament, 23 August 1988, p. 3.

⁵ "Ambassador Fortier Stresses Hope", *The Disarmament Bulletin*, Fall-Winter 1988, p. 11.

⁶ "University of Calgary Workshop on Verification of a Chemical Weapons Convention," *The Disarmament Bulletin*, Fall-Winter 1988, p. 5. See also: James Keeley, *International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards: Observations on Lessons for Verifying a Chemical Weapons Convention*. Ottawa: Department of External Affairs, *Arms Control and Disarmament Verification Occasional Papers* No. 1, September 1988.