

development and application of safeguards to ensure that nuclear materials supplied for peaceful purposes are not diverted to military uses. Under terms of a treaty for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, each non-nuclear weapons state adhering to the treaty was to conclude an agreement with the IAEA providing for safeguards on its entire nuclear program. The IAEA also imposes safeguards pursuant to agreements relating to individual nuclear facilities. Agency inspectors have carried out safeguard inspections in Canada and more than 60 other countries.

3.6.2.4 **Canada and disarmament**

Canada is an active member of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD), a 31-nation negotiating body. This committee, with the United States and the Soviet Union as co-chairmen, represents the worldwide concern with the arms race. The CCD is seeking a comprehensive prohibition of nuclear weapons testing, including underground tests, and a ban on the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons.

3.6.2.5 **Canada and force reductions in Central Europe**

Canada continues to participate in the conference on the mutual reduction of forces and armaments and associated measures in Central Europe, which opened officially in Vienna in October 1973.

3.6.2.6 **Canada, NATO and NORAD**

NATO. Canada was one of the 12 original signatories of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1949. Successive Canadian governments reaffirmed the view that Canada's security remains linked to that of Europe and the United States. Canada is committed to the principle of collective defence and remains convinced of the importance of NATO's role in reducing, and eventually removing, the underlying causes of potential East-West conflict through negotiation, reconciliation and settlement.

A number of major equipment procurement decisions arising from the defence structure review of 1975 were made during 1977, the most important of which was to purchase 130-150 new fighter aircraft to replace the outdated CF-101s, CF-104s and CF-5s currently in service. In December 1977, Cabinet approved funds for the project definition phase leading to the acquisition in the early 1980s of six new patrol frigates.

Canada participates in the mutual and balanced force reductions negotiations in Vienna. These negotiations are generally recognized as difficult because they touch on vital security interests of both NATO and the Warsaw Pact nations. Now in their fifth year, the negotiations have not yet resulted in agreement, largely because of differing perceptions of the actual size of the military forces on each side. Similarly, little progress was recorded in the strategic arms limitation talks between the US and the USSR, although events in 1977 led to optimism that progress might be made in 1978.

Members of the alliance continue to experience, in varying degrees, the impact of severe inflation and other economic problems. Under these circumstances, particular attention has been paid to the problem of maintaining an adequate defence capability in the face of serious strains on the economies of some of the allies. Alliance members, including Canada, continue to seek economies by increasing specialization in the development, production and acquisition of military equipment to avoid costly duplication of efforts.

Canada's membership in NATO continues to be a factor in the development of its political, economic and scientific-technological relations with Europe, by which Canada seeks to balance its relations with the United States. The alliance obliges both Canada and the United States to maintain a deep interest in European affairs and exemplifies the interdependence of Europe and North America. It also provides Canada with an opportunity to consult with 14 other countries (including eight of the nine members of the European community) continuously and regularly on a variety of political and military questions.

North American defence co-operation. Canada's support of collective security is not limited to its role in NATO. Through its continuing co-operative defence arrangements