

Canadian Forces Europe. The Canadian Forces allocated to support NATO in Europe consist of land and air elements. The land element is No. 4 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group operationally responsible to the Central Army Group. The air element, No. 1 Canadian Air Group, consisting of three CF-104 Starfighter squadrons, is operationally assigned to No. 4 Allied Tactical Air Force. These elements are located in the Baden-Baden area of the Federal Republic of Germany and are supported administratively by CFB Europe at Lahr.

Administration of military bases in Canada. Staffs and services required below Command Headquarters level to administer and support units based in a particular locality have been organized on Canadian Forces bases. The primary role of each base is to provide base-level administration and supporting services to those units located on or near the base. Each base has been allocated to a functional Commander, to whom the base Commander reports.

Function/regional organization. Functional Commanders have been assigned a regional as well as a functional responsibility for such actions as representation to provincial governments, aid of the Civil Power, emergency and survival operations, and administration of cadets, as well as regional support services for all units in the region.

Canada has been divided into six regions, five of which have been assigned to functional Commanders as follows: Atlantic (Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick) — Maritime Command; Eastern (Quebec) — Mobile Command; Central (Ontario) — Air Transport Command; Prairie (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta) — Training Command; and Pacific (British Columbia) — Maritime Forces Pacific. One region, comprising the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories, has been assigned to Commander Northern Region with Headquarters in Yellowknife, NWT who also exercises a co-ordinating function for all military activities in the region.

3.7.3 Operations in 1973

Maritime air, surface and sub-surface forces participated in NATO exercises in the North Atlantic and in combined exercises with forces from New Zealand, Australia, Britain and the United States on both the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. Training exercises were conducted in the Bermuda, Caribbean and Southern California areas to maintain the Maritime Forces at an operational level. In addition, an exercise was held in the Arctic to assess capabilities in northern waters. One destroyer was assigned to the NATO Standing Naval Force Atlantic.

Argus aircraft from both east and west coast squadrons maintained daily long-range patrols and surveillance of ocean areas adjacent to the Canadian coastline and in the Arctic; many hours were also flown on search and rescue missions. Shore-based Tracker aircraft flew similar missions, concentrating on coastal patrols, fisheries protection and pollution prevention. Between exercises, ships made goodwill visits to many nations. Argus crews conducted exchange visits with United States, Britain and France.

In fulfilment of obligations under NATO, Canada continued to provide ground and air forces for the defence of Western Europe.

To exercise Canadian sovereignty and to familiarize troops with the problems of living, moving and fighting in the North, exercise New Viking continued to be Mobile Command's most important northern exercise. From advanced bases in Churchill and Resolute Bay forces were deployed to forward patrol bases in all parts of the Canadian archipelago.

In addition, the Canadian Airborne Regiment, the Command's quick reaction force for both defence of Canada and international peacekeeping operations, exercised in the Arctic and trained in California in October.

The Canadian Forces continued to provide support for United Nations operations. Canadian participation in the UN forces in Cyprus included provision of a reduced Infantry Battalion, a Canadian Contingent Headquarters and a Canadian element in the UN headquarters — a total of 589 officers and men. There were also 39 officers and men employed on other UN missions in the Middle East, Kashmir and Korea. In October Canada agreed to contribute forces to the United Nations Emergency Force (Middle East). Between November 4, 1973 and January 15, 1974, over 1,100 men, with communication, supply, and other equipment, were deployed to Egypt. The force includes a Signals Unit, a Service Unit, an Air Unit of two Buffalo Aircraft, a base support unit and personnel on the staff of the United Nations Headquarters in Cairo.

In January 1973 Canada deployed 250 members of the forces to Vietnam to participate in