IN THIS ISSUE

The guns of the Gulf War had barely fallen silent when civil war erupted in Iraq. In the south, the Shia population rose up in revolt against Saddam Hussein; in the north it was the Kurds. Both uprisings were suppressed by the remnants of the Iraqi army. The defeated Kurds began to flee, creating a monumental refugee problem that dominated the headlines during the Spring.

The Kurdish struggle for an independent homeland has affected not just Iraq, but Iran and Turkey as well. Michael Gunter's article examines Turkey's concerns regarding foreign support of the Kurdish insurgency in that country. He finds the evidence of foreign-instigated subversion unconvincing, and goes on to assert that Turkey need not see the Kurdish issue as a mortal threat to the country. Rather, he argues, given a greater degree of cultural freedom (which they now lack) the Kurds might integrate peacefully into Turkish society.

Mario Azevedo traces Mozambique's difficult rapprochement with the West. Azevedo argues that this came about not as a result of a change of ideological perspective on the part of Mozambique's Marxist rulers, but as a consequence of circumstances: a deteriorating internal security situation, occasioned by a South African-supported insurgency; economic disarray; and a need for financial and humanitarian aid. The author concludes that, aid from and compromises with the West notwithstanding, Mozambique's leaders remain convinced that Marxist-Leninism provides the correct political path for their country.

The civil war in El Salvador has been raging for more than a decade. The insurgency is led and dominated by the FMLN. Yvon Grenier seeks answers to two fundamental questions: "What is the FMLN and what does it want?" Grenier's answers emerge from the analysis of five key words which are used to explain the FMLN's organization and political positions. Having determined the meaning of these words, and hence, of the FMLN itself, he goes on to conclude that in order to achieve part of its declared goals, the FMLN will have

to compromise on other aspects of its revolutionary programme.

In the previous "In This Issue" (Winter 1991) it was noted that the Gulf War had overshadowed other conflicts, particularly those of a low-intensity nature. Indeed, it might be argued that the recent war has challenged fundamental assumptions about the future direction of armed conflict—will low-intensity conflict be the norm or the exception? An impressive slate of scholars and specialists will be grappling with such questions at the Centre for Conflict Studies Fifth Annual Conference this coming September (see the conference notice this issue). Yet, the extent to which the Gulf War has already overtaken events is apparent even in this issue. Michael Gunter's article and several of the reviews, written before the event, had to be amended or annotated to take the war into account. This may be just a hint of the true measure of the war's impact on global affairs.

The opinions expressed in the articles, reviews and other contributions are those of the authors alone, and do not necessarily represent those of the Centre for Conflict Studies or the University of New Brunswick.

5th Annual Conflict Studies Conference

LOW INTENSITY CONFLICT: THE NEW FACE OF BATTLE?

University of New Brunswick 27-28 September 1991

Sponsored by the Centre for Conflict Studies of the University of New Brunswick under a grant from the Canadian Department of National Defence

For further information contact:

David Charters or Brent Wilson Centre for Conflict Studies University of New Brunswick PO Box 4400 Fredericton, NB CANADA E3B 5A3

Telephone: (506) 453-4587 FAX No: (506) 453-4599

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Day 1 - CASE STUDIES IN LOW INTENSITY CONFLICT

The British Experience: an Historical Survey
Tom Mockaitis - Carthage College

The Punjab Disturbances of 1919

Mark Jacobsen - Naval Historical Center

The Mau Mau Emergency
Randall Heather - Cambridge University

Comparing Malaya and Vietnam
Sam Sarkesian - Loyola University of Chicago

American Pacification: the Western Frontier and the Philippines 1866-1902 Brian Aldridge - University of New Brunswick

Marines and Sandinistas, 1926-1933

David Brooks - University of Connecticut

The Phoenix Program
Dale Andrade - Naval Historical Center

Reinventing the Wrong Wheel? Current American Doctrine and Thinking on LIC

Larry Cable - University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Day 2 - LOW INTENSITY CONFLICT AND THE STUDY OF WAR: A WORKSHOP

Defining the Field and the Problem

Douglas Pike - Institute of East-Asian Studies, Berkeley

Origins and Meaning of the Concept of "Low Intensity" Charles Townshend - University of Keele

State of the Art: Current Research and Literature Bruce Hoffman - RAND Corporation

Low Intensity Conflict: Its Place in the Study of War Ian F.W. Beckett - RMA Sandhurst

The Political and Psychological Dimensions of Low Intensity Conflict Maurice Tugwell - The Mackenzie Institute