

to exercise increased responsibilities for the maintenance of these standards.

The sudden multiplication of activities related to the quality of life has not caught the Department unprepared. The Scientific Relations and Environmental Problems Division was established in 1970, re-organized this year as the Bureau of Economic and Scientific Affairs. In addition to co-ordinating Canada's contributions to the various international initiatives I have described, the scientific affairs arm of the Bureau is responsible for the establishment of bilateral exchanges such as the scientific and Technological Agreement reached with the Soviet Union last fall. In addition, this Bureau has the day-to-day management of all of Canada's specific national interests in the allied fields of science in general and protection of the environment in particular.

Returning for a moment to the United Nations, the foreign policy papers state that in the 1970s Canada should give a high priority to work on arms control and disarmament. In this field Canada made an important contribution to the recently concluded Seabed Arms Control Treaty and is continuing its efforts towards progress in the search for a comprehensive nuclear test ban and the outlawing of chemical and biological weapons in warfare. In N.A.T.O. we are working with our allies for mutual balanced force reductions in Europe and, as a group, consulting with the United States on the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

The papers discuss the need for Canada to project abroad its distinctive bilingual and multicultural nature. Progress is being made, in the normalization of our relations with France, in increased development assistance to Francophone countries of Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. L'Agence de coopération culturelle et technique has been successfully founded and its first formal conference will be held in Canada this fall. This makes clear that Canada has been successful in its effort to be accepted internationally as being equally a French-speaking and an English-speaking country.

Recently I visited five of the developing countries of Africa, both Anglophone and Francophone. I believe that you will now be turning your attention to African problems and I look forward to discussing these with you next month.

All of these activities, and all of Canada's activities, must be seen against the background of our complex and intricate relations with the United States. The general paper identifies Canada's central problem as being "how to live in harmony with, but distinct from the greatest power on earth". It also identifies the United States as our closest