

Interdependence in terms of peace and security can also be seen in local conflicts like the Middle East war that involve the interests of the super-powers. The inherent difficulty of finding a solution to the conflict that will satisfy Israelis and Arabs alike is compounded by the need of the super-powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, to achieve, or appear to achieve, their own ends and justify the part they are playing.

Interdependence in terms of world prosperity is a subject I have already discussed. No country in the world today is self-sufficient. Even the United States depends on imports to supply its economy and on exports for a significant percentage of its national income. Nations must trade in order to survive, and international trade means interdependence.

Interdependence in terms of the human condition opens a subject of great importance -- international development assistance. This has become an essential element in the foreign policy of donor and recipient nations alike. The provision of assistance in large amounts is perhaps a belated acceptance that all men everywhere depend on one another. The thought itself goes back to the Old Testament and is found deep down in all religions and systems of philosophy.

As foreign minister, I have been asked, from time to time, to justify the expenditure of large sums on foreign aid. I have reached the conclusion that the essential justification is to be found in the human terms I have set out above. It is sometimes said that "tied" aid stimulates the economy of the donor nation. This is true up to a point, but undoubtedly there are cheaper and more effective ways to do this. It has also been suggested that the provision of aid to a country can open up trading opportunities. Again there is truth in this, but it is a long-term investment indeed, not one that would attract your average, prudent Canadian financier.

In the end, I suggest, the justification must be found in humanitarian ideas. I believe that the Canadian people want to provide development assistance and find satisfaction in doing so, just as they strive to remove regional inequalities here at home.

Interdependence in terms of the human condition is not limited to the giving and receiving of development aid. It involves us in disaster relief -- an earthquake in Peru one year, a Pakistan typhoon the next. It raises the problem of the role of the international community in internal conflicts such as we saw in Nigeria in 1968-69 and in Pakistan in the last few weeks. Canada has made an important contribution to the work of the International Red Cross in the development of humanitarian law, seeking international arrangements that would allow international relief agencies to operate in civil conflicts to aid the innocent bystanders -- usually women and children -- as they do in wars between nation states.

Interdependence in terms of the human condition takes in many more of the major concerns of the day: social justice, race discrimination and the whole question of the dignity of man, the environmental problems that