

alarming rate--28 million acres of tropical rainforest are cleared each year, an area the size of England.

The loss of the rainforests, combined with ever increasing burning of fossil-fuels, is leading to a global rise in carbon dioxide levels and the warming of the Earth's atmosphere, which over the next few decades is expected to start a melting of the polar ice caps with devastating consequences to the world's coastlines.

The world has at least 10,000 tons of radioactive waste awaiting disposal. Some countries are dumping nuclear wastes in the world's oceans.

Bio-engineering is creating technologies potentially more dangerous than nuclear energy. Commercially-produced bacterial life forms with no precedents in nature are being tested in the environment with unknown, and perhaps unknowable, consequences.

Economy

The developing countries of the South owe the banks of the North \$800 billion, and increasingly there is talk of a debtor's cartel. Many economists have predicted that a large-scale default would bring down the world's monetary system. We have seen in Canada recently the extent to which financial institutions are buoyed by little more than public confidence, and how the domino effect of a collapse in one part of the system spreads panic and collapse across the whole system. What would be the implications to global security, and in particular Western security, of a sudden rupture in the international banking system. How would our democratic institutions hold up under the ensuing rush of events?

These problems are inter-related. Solutions require an integrated, co-operative, global approach. Developed countries, for example, will find it hard to clamp down on pollution if industries simply pick up and move to the developing world where controls are almost non-existent. Developing countries are hardly likely to make a priority of pollution in the face of their desperate problems of poverty and debt repayment. Developing countries hold many of the cards in our pollution problems, we hold many cards in their poverty problem.

Effective solutions will require complex trade-offs and compromises that can best be achieved through multilateral institutions in which all of humanity may be engaged in the development and implementation of global policy on matters affecting the planet as a whole. Only through such institutions can Canada hope to exercise some influence on others and perhaps hold them to account. *The development of these institutions is therefore an especially important goal in the quest for genuine security so as to enable us to deal effectively with the broad front of dangers we face.*

Unfortunately, the development of these institutions is all but paralyzed by the politics of sovereign nation-state system, particularly the politics of maintaining national security in the nation-state system.

B) Real Cost of the War System

The international system has evolved over the past half a century to the point where there is now a rudimentary international security apparatus in the U.N. And some progress has been made toward codifying international law. There is a world court, and a third of the world's nations accept its authority to some extent. But mostly states still rely for the