

Canada's external interests have grown with our evolving status from colony, to an autonomous part of an empire, through to full independence.

Our posts abroad grew from an initial two, in London and Paris, whose status was something less than that of a full diplomatic mission. Our first true foreign mission was the Legation in Washington established in 1927. From that time on until 1939 a few other legations and embassies were established. But it was not until the 2nd World War that, through our alliances, we saw a great expansion of our diplomatic missions abroad.

Canada emerged from the 2nd World War with considerable economic strength and a new sense of independence. The war had taken many Canadians abroad and had kindled throughout the country a tremendous interest in the world outside Canada's borders.

Canadians became one of the world's most travelled people. Today, there are 2 million valid Canadian passports in circulation and my Department expects to issue another 500,000 this year. This great interest in the world outside our borders stems, I think, from the recognition that Canada depends, perhaps more than most other industrialized states, for its well-being and security on trade and cooperation with others. We also look abroad for the expression of an important element of our national character: a belief in a certain human duty toward others.

All these activities have drawn Canadians to journey abroad. This has required the establishment of a wide and still expanding network of diplomatic and consular missions throughout the world. One of their major purposes is to protect Canadian interests and to assist in the development of the external links in the wide range of fields of contact and cooperation which Canadians seek to develop.

### Recognition

In recent months the matter of recognition may have seemed rather metaphysical as even Heads of States which did not recognize each other have managed to meet, issue communiqués, open offices in each other's country and generally do a considerable amount of business. Such exceptional cases, however, have not deprived recognition of its practical value for ordinary day-to-day relations between countries.

Canada, along with other states with a Western legal heritage, subscribes to the principle of the recognition of states, rather than particular governments. This principle follows logically from the early thinking about relations with foreign states that I have described: such and such a state exists; it is in Canada's interest to have relations with it.

On the question, in a situation of violent change, of what government to have relations with, Canada, again along with most Western states, applies a simple test.

--Is the government in question able to exercise control, with a reasonable expectation that it can deal effectively with foreign governments for at least some period of time.