

First, there is the fundamental clash of ideologies between the Sino-Soviet peoples and the non-communist world, and the effect on foreign policy and on the behaviour of all states within the framework of a stable international system, as the world alternates between periods when the communist world is engaged in violent verbal and aggressive offensive and the often simulated posture of peaceful negotiation.

Secondly, there is the emergence of many colonial peoples to statehood, those "new sovereignties", sensitive and urgent in a search for a place in the stream of history.

Thirdly, there is the "population explosion", with its incalculable effects in this and the next generation on international society everywhere in the world.

Fourthly, there are the scientific break-throughs that, by the manufacture of thermo-nuclear weapons and the increasingly successful explorations in space, have altered forever the shape of warfare and the very perspective of this planet.

Finally, there is a search for international institutions that will help to resolve old and new conflicts between states and peoples, and provide a new framework within which international co-operation may be encouraged and directed for common security, welfare, and international peace.

Canada's Contribution

Canadians have made important contributions to international law and international legal developments, including the Canadian proposals on the Law of the Sea at the Geneva Conference last year which would limit sovereignty to 6 miles and add a zone of 6 miles for fisheries' control; and the measurement of down-stream and up-stream rights and benefits as between states sharing a common boundary river, as for instance in the case of the Columbia River. These have had a marked influence on international thinking. Furthermore, there has been advanced research into the legal problems of outer space, in particular at the McGill University Institute of International Air and Space Law.

Time for a Choice

This moment of history presents a point of departure to a new epoch, and possibly a point of no return. As new forces are unleashed which mean either world destruction or the realization of man's ideals and longings, the international community of nations is presented with a choice, direct and simple, which can no longer be postponed. It is a choice fundamental to society itself, and even to the survival of mankind. It is the choice between the highway of the Rule of Law and that uncertain path which has no laws to guide or control the selfish and arbitrary