

call for "a major fully multilateral review and reconstruction of our global economic institutions," especially the Bank and Fund. And Sylvia Ostry's call for a major reform of GATT's disputes settlement procedures, its secretariat, its political oversight mechanism and its effective linkage with the Bank and Fund is still urgent.

There are useful discussions by Arthur Collin and Leonard Legault of that important new concern, global environmental management, and the legal aspects of that subject in which Canada, both with the Law of the Sea and elsewhere, has been a major proponent.

Canada's efforts in trying to shape stability in Central America, to build order in Southern Africa and to encourage arms control negotiations are summarized as encouraging developments in the evolving international system.

The recent changes in the global situation, as John Kirton argues, suggest that there must be a more direct connection between Canada's arms control and defence policies than at present. This might be most useful in making the new strategic value of Canada's Arctic as a counter in superpower arms control and disarmament negotiations.

The Canadian-American relationship in this new era is alluded to by the late John Holmes. He asks: "However benevolent Washington's intentions, and however firm Canada's national resolve, would not Canadians, by a system's bias, find the not-so-silent majority of North Americans irresistible?" He adds: "Most Canadians have been skeptical of sovereignty-association. How would Americans view an arrangement which would restrict their own precious sovereignty in deference to a country which most of them see not as foreign state but as a kind of aurora borealis on the northern horizon, all reflecting lights without substance?"

Holmes asks whether Canada must begin to act as a formal partner of the US in international institutions, which many Canadians might find "a fair trade for free trade." But he argues that formalizing the relationship may see Canada drifting into a policy aimed not so much at pleasing Washington as not displeasing it. "Canada can be led that way by good Canadians who not only believe that a free trade agreement is worth almost any sacrifice but who also want to be associated with Reaganite foreign policy because they like it. Their eye is not on the long term and they forget that administrations change in Washington

and governments change in Ottawa. In the meantime the faith in good will as a reliable continental institution is mildeewing."

But Kirton concludes by asking: Can Canada have the international order it wants without providing stronger support for the United States than Canada has traditionally felt comfortable in giving?" He answers himself by arguing that "the United States badly needs the strong, self-confident contribution of Canada in preserving the old international order — and in building the new."

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IR vineyard

by Ernie Keenes

On Diplomacy: A Genealogy of Western Estrangement by James Der Derian. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1987, 258 pages.

This is a book which deserves to become a classic. Do not be misled by the title. It is not a stale tome in the tradition of Satow and Nicolson. Nor is it an account of the effects on classical statesmanship of innovations such as symmetry, fax machines, trade promotion, and bureaucracy. It is, rather, an account of the history of "international relations," as told through the evolution of the ways in which humans have endeavored to mediate estrangement from God and from each other, through the rise of secularism, the nation-state, and anarchical interstate relations.

The approach to the subject is genealogical, a form of critical social theory associated with French intellectual Michel Foucault. Those not familiar with the approach should not be put off, for it is really not very difficult, and there is a payoff.

Diplomacy, Der Derian argues, is the process of attempting to mediate or manage estrangement and alienation, but one which is both bridge and barrier. "Diplomacy will be investigated as the medium of estranged peoples organized in states which interact in a system," he writes. "Like the bridges of medieval cities, the diplomatic culture begins as a neutral link between alien quarters, but with the disintegration and diffusion of a common Latin power, it becomes a cluttered yet protected enclave, a

discursive space where representatives of sovereign states can avoid the national tolls of the embryonic international society while attempting to mediate its systemic alienation."

The bulk of the book is an account of the forms of diplomatic mediation. The first is "mytho-diplomacy," in which the author explores diplomatic themes in classical mythology and Judeo-Christian texts. "Proto-diplomacy" is about the mediations practised by clerics, warriors and traders within the fissures of the Holy Roman Empire, and between it and Islam. "Diplomacy" proper concerns the familiar practices of power politics emerging from the Machiavellian city-states and passed on to the nation-state system. "Anti-diplomacy" covers the challenges to Diplomacy by utopian or universalist doctrines which seek to transcend alienation and estrangement. Examples here range from Marxism ("workers of the world unite!") to the peace planners such as Crucé, to terrorism as a liberating praxis à la Sartre or Sorel.

"Neo-diplomacy" recounts the failed challenges to Diplomacy posed by French and Bolshevik revolutions. Finally, in the contemporary world of "techno-diplomacy," Der Derian refers to the "global communication processes by which scientific or other organized knowledge is being systematically applied to and inscribed by power politics."

Der Derian refers to Nietzsche in observing that nothing with a history can be defined. This book is, therefore, a genealogical history not only of diplomacy, but of international relations as a process of mediating human estrangement. It is a critical analysis of International Relations as a discipline as well. But it is a critique from within, for the book is dedicated to the late Hedley Bull, and continues some of the attributes of the British school of the discipline. Der Derian's post-classical work is a major contribution and can be read profitably beside other recent major works by Anthony Giddens and Michael Mann.

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The International Relations Dictionary, Fourth Edition by Jack C. Plano and Roy Olton. Santa Barbara, California: ABC-Clío, 1988, 446 pages, US\$42.95.

Dictionaries such as this are of interest on three levels. First, there is their utility in