

International economic conditions were also shaped by the struggle between the Soviet Bloc and the United States and its allies. The problems created by the expanding global market for gold, for example, affected Canada's relations with the International Monetary Fund (Documents 294 to 296). More significantly, Ottawa found itself deeply embroiled in the work of the new International Commodity Conference, which sought to distribute scarce raw materials among the western and non-aligned countries in an equitable fashion (Documents 298 to 337). In addition to helping ensure that its allies had sufficient resources to rearm, Canada continued to restrict trade with the Soviet Bloc (Documents 864 and 865) and China (Documents 946 to 948). Naturally, Cold War themes dominate the chapter which deals directly with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe (Chapter 9). In particular, this volume documents the government's preoccupation with anticipating Moscow's foreign policy (Documents 924 to 926) and explores Ottawa's continuing efforts to wage psychological warfare in Eastern Europe (Documents 938 and 939).

The end of the year brought about a slight relaxation of East-West tensions. In early July, a Soviet initiative encouraged the United States and China to begin the difficult process of negotiating a cease-fire in Korea. Canada was not closely involved in every aspect of the negotiations and this volume does not try to account for the entire course of these discussions. Instead, it focuses on those developments that were of particular interest to Canada. Consequently, much of the material on this subject documents Pearson's efforts to moderate the language Washington wished to use to warn Peking of the consequences of breaching a truce (Documents 155 to 179). At the United Nations' Sixth General Assembly the reduction in international tension was evident in the Assembly's decision to combine the U.N. Atomic Energy Commission with the Commission for Conventional Armaments into a single agency (Documents 206 to 216). The new Disarmament Commission was expected to re-start stalled disarmament negotiations in 1952.

The attention accorded Cold War divisions and the money spent on rearmament left a growing number of states unimpressed. In 1951 signs of a "serious rift" appeared in the West's relations with the less developed world.⁴ Like the Cold War, with which it would become inextricably linked, the division between rich and poor was destined to become a permanent feature of international relations in the second half of the twentieth century. As indigenous nationalism and pressure for decolonization grew apace in Asia and Africa, Canada was forced to navigate between its traditional allies and its newer Asian and African friends. This conflict is documented in Ottawa's response to Britain's confrontation with Egypt (Documents 909 to 915) and in its moderate approach to South Africa's dispute with India and its non-aligned friends over the status of South-West Africa (Documents 217 to 230).

The emerging division between rich and poor is also apparent in the documentation reproduced in this volume on the debate surrounding the proposal that the United Nations establish a special fund to aid the less developed countries (Document 232 to 240). Canadian officials, overwhelmed by demands for assistance from

⁴ Canada, Department of External Affairs, *Canada and the United Nations, 1951-52* (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1952), p. vi.