

establish diplomatic relations with Peking and invited the reaction of the public. The negotiations with the Chinese were, of course, carried on in secret and the resulting agreement took a form that could not have been exactly foreseen. But there was never any doubt about our intentions, either at home or abroad.

These early experiences and the increased public interest in foreign affairs led the government to attempt something unique - the formulation of a set of basic principles underlying Canadian foreign policy. This finally emerged after months of preparation and debate within Cabinet in a series of brochures entitled "Foreign Policy for Canadians". You will recall that a number of newspapers criticized the cover - I am told that the female sex is inadequately represented, and there is not a smile on the face of any of the Canadians that appear there. I am not sure under what government the picture was taken. Other commentators, it is true, went beyond the cover, and although there was no lack of criticism of the content I think it was generally agreed that the effort to produce an outline of Canada's foreign policy within a conceptual framework was timely and justified. It was, I think, the first time that any Canadian Government, at least, had attempted to lay before the people of the country an outline of the considerations that were involved in the establishment of their international priorities. It was the first time that any Canadian Government said clearly and methodically how Canadian foreign policy was intended to promote Canadian objectives. May I add, parenthetically, that it was the first time in my ten years as a member of the Government that the Cabinet as a whole deliberately considered the basic lines of our overall foreign policy.

"Foreign Policy for Canadians" attracted a good deal of useful discussion but, more important, it helped to set this country on a course from which I doubt any government will depart for a long time to come. As long as foreign affairs were something that could be taken for granted, and as long as the man in the street did not feel directly involved in these decisions, it was safe to leave discussions for editorial writers and public servants and, possibly, the occasional Cabinet Minister. The publication of "Foreign Policy for Canadians", if it did nothing else, brought the genie out of the bottle and placed the arcane mysteries of foreign policy formulation under public scrutiny, for any who might wish to scrutinize. There could be no going back. Indeed, it became very clear, very soon, that we had to go forward.

The most common criticism of "Foreign Policy for Canadians" was that, lacking a separate booklet on Canadian-U.S. relations, it was like producing Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark. Without exception the press from Coast to Coast jumped on us. The erudite and not so erudite columnists had a field day. Where, we were asked, was the "missing" book? It had, I must confess, occurred to me and my colleagues that the absence of the book bearing this title would be noted. As I said at the time, the U.S. relationship permeated all other aspects of our foreign policy and the Government's views on the relationship were to be found under appropriate headings within the individual books that had been published. While this was (and is) undoubtedly true, it became clear that it was not considered enough and, partly in response to these public attitudes, and partly because our relations with the United