

to speaking and voting on these issues in international forums, we have spoken directly to Chilean representatives. As a concrete indication of the concern of Canada for the human-rights violations taking place in Chile, we have authorized 5,360 Chilean refugees to find permanent homes here. Ninety-two former Chilean political prisoners and approximately 200 of their dependants have achieved similar status. Canada's record with regard to promoting the re-growth of human rights in Chile is second to no other nation's, and Chilean officials are well aware of this.

We have a responsibility, however, to exercise delicate judgment as to when to "go public" and when to continue with "quiet diplomacy". The phrase "quiet diplomacy" may seem to some a euphemism for a lack of responsiveness. This simply is not the case. In the proper circumstances, it can accomplish far more in the long run than public appeals that may satisfy an immediate pent-up frustration, but cut off prospects for a satisfactory resolution of conflicting views. An illustration of this type of approach is our attitude towards Indonesia. During a visit to Indonesia last year, my predecessor, Mr. MacEachen, took the opportunity of a meeting with Foreign Minister Malik to raise the problem of political prisoners and to express the concern with which a number of Canadians view this issue. Mr. MacEachen noted that some of the detainees had already been released by the Indonesian Government and expressed the hope that this trend would continue. We have been encouraged that this trend has, in fact, continued since that time.

Whether a given course of action will be effective depends as well on our ultimate goals. If we seek to rectify isolated abuses or aberrations in a state's normal performance in the human-rights field, the task is generally manageable; but if we seek to alter a firm policy or the fundamental basis of another state's society, the issue is not likely to be resolved, at least easily or quickly. South Africa, for example, has resolutely refused to yield on the *apartheid* question, which is not simply one of that state's peripheral customs but also an integral part of its social composition.

The appropriateness of Canadian action is related to our record, principles and traditions. We should not wish to condemn hastily, before the facts are in or before we can reach reasonably firm conclusions after an examination of the available evidence. Similarly, it would not be appropriate to expect other countries to do more than we are prepared to do at home. The Canadian record, both at home and in international bodies like the Commission on Human Rights, is excellent, and we have a right to be proud of the conditions we enjoy in this country.