

you may not even have the right to legal representation or a trial in your mother tongue.

Some countries don't recognize or respect religious freedom, freedom of association, speech or the press, or equality of the sexes. For instance, guilt by association is presumed in some countries. This means that you may be charged simply for being in the company of a person suspected or found guilty of a crime.

Even if you're an innocent bystander at a demonstration or riot you may be considered a participant and rounded up with those involved. **Your Canadian citizenship does not grant you immunity.**

If you do find yourself in legal trouble, contact the nearest Canadian mission immediately. If you cannot do so yourself, have someone else do it for you.

Mail

If you are travelling for an extended period of time, you can arrange to have your mail sent to a post office box or, where possible, to the nearest Canadian mission. In the latter case, the mission will hold on to letter-size mail (not parcels) for you to pick up **in person**. This mail cannot be forwarded to another address.

Travel to the United States

Because of our close relationship with our neighbours to the south, we sometimes forget that we're visiting a foreign country. The same preparations should be made for visiting the United States as for travelling to any foreign country. And it should be remembered that their laws and customs are different from ours at home.

Always carry your Canadian passport, citizenship or birth certificate when you're travelling to the United States. A driver's licence is not valid proof of citizenship.

When travelling to the United States, keep in mind that:

- ❖ As soon as you stop at the U.S. border, you are subject to U.S. law. Immigration laws in the United States refuse entry to, among others, people with a criminal record.
- ❖ What you say in answer to the immigration or customs officer can be used against you if you are considered to be, for any reason, inadmissible.
- ❖ When a person is refused entry, the information is entered in the computer and if another entry is attempted, the person is again subject to fines and/or vehicle seizure.

For more detailed information about travel to the United States, please refer to the booklet *Crossing the 49th*. Please see page 30 for details on how to order this booklet.

PART FOUR: RETURNING TO CANADA

Departure Tax

Some countries impose a departure tax at the airport or point of departure. Prior to leaving such a country, make sure you set aside enough money, in local funds, to pay this tax.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: Be Aware and Declare

A single sausage illegally brought into Canada caused foot and mouth disease, destroying cattle and costing Canadians more than \$1 billion. Every year, thousands of travellers fail to declare things like cheese, meat, animal hides, live birds, plants and fruit. These products may carry pests and diseases, and pose a risk to human health.

Foreign pests and diseases could destroy Canada's crops and forests, and wipe out our livestock. This would threaten our ability to produce food and a multi-billion dollar export trade critical to Canada's economic well-being.

We need to protect our country. Canadian law says you **must** declare all plant and animal products you bring back. It restricts and prohibits entry of products that could harm