

International Perspectives

International Perspectives is published in Canada six times a year by International Perspectives, (95312 Canada Inc.), 302-150 Wellington St., Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5A4. Telephone: (613) 238-2628

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 4929

Publisher:
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Subscription rates:

In Canada:

- Single issue — \$3.75
- One year (six issues) — \$21
- Two years (12 issues) — \$39
- Three years (18 issues) — \$57

Other countries:

- Single issue — \$4.25
- One year (six issues) — \$24
- Two years (12 issues) — \$45
- Three years (18 issues) — \$69

Subscription address:

P.O. Box 949,
Station B,
Ottawa, Canada
K1P 5P9

International Perspectives is a journal of opinion on world affairs. It takes no editorial position. The opinions expressed are those of the authors.

ISSN 0381-4874
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Editor's Note:

When that Soviet fighter shot down that Korean airliner Soviet citizens learned about it only slowly — and only partially. In this issue Larry Black of Carleton University chronicles the tortuous path Russian newspapers and cartoonists took, grudgingly telling part of the story.

There are many reasons to fear atomic weapons. In a different look at how war can come about, Michael Tucker of Mount Allison University gives us some new reasons to fear conventional weapons. Somewhat antidotally, Ashok Kapur of the University of Waterloo offers some comfort in an unusual examination of the perils of proliferation.

And what about our "tilts" in the Middle East? Are we really as imprisoned by our attachment to Israel as two previous authors in International Perspectives charged? Or are we slipping into a posture that has seen us steadily tilting away from Israel in recent years and towards the Palestinians? Two Toronto political scientists — David Dewitt and John Kirton — think so. Again this issue a Member of Parliament emerges to express his strongly-held views on a subject which would be controversial were it more widely debated — Canada's joining the Organization of American States.

Then there are no fewer than three articles on individual countries — two of them attracting our attention because of their emerging ability to make us notice their existence, Greenland is huge and close; Brunei is tiny and distant. Meet them here in articles by Stanley Ing of York University and Bruce Burton of the University of Windsor. Afghanistan has other reasons for its more strident demand on our attentions, and John Walker shares some of his findings on his second trip to that war front.

And next issue, we offer a slight change of format. It will be a theme number — on the changing economic world and how Canada finds ways of surviving and prospering by trade, aid and investment.

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