

non-nuclear, and with a particular advantage in being bilingual so that we have special access to the francophone world. We have, above all, a lasting and visceral commitment to multilateralism which is ingrained, and endemic to the Canadian character. We share this continent with the United States; we are good friends, and we hope that we can in the future share as well Canada's more positive view of the United Nations. I have learned as I travelled over the last number of months that it is not hard to convey a more positive view of the United Nations. There is a yearning everywhere amongst people to affirm the validity of the international community and of an international organization.

The Charter may, here and there, be under siege; but it is still an incomparable blueprint for a more just, civilized, humane and tolerant international community. One day we shall achieve it — infidels of all varieties notwithstanding. And so to the dreamers, the idealists, the pragmatists, the artisans in the vineyards of human betterment, the indefatigable apostles in the cause of peace, to all who are tenacious, and unrelenting, I wish you well and ask you never to be cowed. □

Canada at the United Nations

by Peyton V. Lyon

How is Canada regarded as a participant in the United Nations? The following answer is based on nearly 200 interviews conducted within the UN's central organs located in New York in 1983. These bodies do not, of course, necessarily mirror the structure of power in the international system. They also lack, alas, the impact on global security envisaged for them in the UN Charter. The UN, however, is by far the world's most representative organization, and most of its 159 members maintain strong missions to the UN in both New York and Geneva. In this and other ways, they act as though the UN political process does matter. The organization is thus a useful vantage point for the study of international influence patterns.

This is especially true for Canada, a country that gave strong leadership in the creation of the UN, and continues to be active in it. Public enthusiasm may have waned, and also pride in the Canadian role. The huge influx of Third World members has rendered the UN less congenial to all its rich

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