

It seems hardly necessary to add, with reference to the studies previously cited, that the scientific approach is in no way cut off from history. On the contrary, it systematically reviews all the case-histories provided by a given period instead of selecting here and there, as the classical school does, isolated references to support their theses while overlooking events that would invalidate them.

As a matter of fact, the steps taken by the academic and the diplomat are not very dissimilar at the initial stage. Their work consists in gathering, assessing, integrating and interpreting various kinds of information. The politician, on the other hand, has a very different task, that of taking decisions on the basis of the options arising from data-interpretation. Now the gathering and processing of data can be done either intuitively or scientifically; diplomats and academics may follow one course or the other, but they would both gain by resorting to the scientific method. The diplomats are moving in this direction, preceded for some years — it should be noted — by the strategists. In the Canadian Department of External Affairs, even though most diplomats still favour the classical approach, there is evidence that the soundness of more scientific techniques is becoming appreciated. Systematic studies have been made and others are under way, a departure which appears promising for the future. It would be paradoxical, and regrettable, if important sectors of the Canadian academic community were to lag behind.

*Steps taken
by academic
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as already known, is as familiar as it is
-founded. First of all, it happens often
ough that a person will in dissimilar
uations sustain two contradictory points
view on the same question or, again,
om one chapter of a book to another.
he scientist clearly has nothing to offer
someone who "always knows it all",
ho takes such an approach regarding
whatever situation may be uncovered by
scientific research. It is, nevertheless, true
at scientific confirmation of an intuiti-
ly-formulated proposition is better than
lying on intuition alone.

Measurement of Canada's role

et us also note that there are more con-
adictory views advanced on the same
bject than one supposes. For instance,
e had concluded in the Policy Analysis
roup that Canada's rank and role in
ernational affairs tended to be under-
timated in this country by academics,
ournalists and even diplomats, while be-
g more highly regarded abroad. How-
er, a quantitative study showed us that
anada's role was more highly valued at
me than we had intuitively supposed.
stly, there is a so-called intuitive know-
dge that has no connection with reality.
that regard, a quantitative study carried
t by Professor Donald Munton of Dal-
usie University, bearing on the period
m 1957 to 1970, has shown that the
odel" of Canadian-American relations
sed on co-operation and goodwill was
rossly inaccurate" and something of a
end. In truth, a model of conflict
emed more in accordance with the facts.

The pendulum of historical judgment
events and conditions, on their nature
d causes, customarily swings from one
nclusion to the extreme opposite....
This is true of what we now know as
e Cold War. The dangers to the peace
d security of the West from Soviet ag-
essive and threatening policies, and the
ars resulting therefrom, were, in my
ew, the main sources of the hostile con-
ontations during the postwar period and
the steps taken to organize collective
tion within and outside the United Na-
ns for protection. Twenty-five years
er, since the world is still intact and
e forces we feared have acquired an
ra of respectability..., the revisionists
n go to work to prove that there never
s any threat to peace from the other
le of the Iron Curtain, that the Krem-

lin was seeking only security by defensive
measures, and that Stalin wished only for
peaceful co-existence. It was the Penta-
gon, so it goes, in the interests of United
States imperialism, which exaggerated, if it
did not manufacture, the menace to peace
from Communist imperialism. Washing-
ton kept the cold war hot for its own
power purposes. Canada and other West-
ern countries, therefore, were hoodwinked
into seeking 'collective security' under
United States leadership which was as
unnecessary as it was unwise....

As one who went through those years
in a position of some authority, I find this
kind of criticism, or rationalisation, if you
will, singularly *unimpressive*.... (Excerpt
from *Volume Two of Lester B. Pearson
Memoirs*).