

one can claim that progress on that scheme was made in 1949, but it was hardly evident at the time.

In other regions, notably the North and Newfoundland, Canadian policy-makers were more anxious to restrain than to inspire their American counterparts. The military implications of Soviet-American conflict, as well as Canada's unfortunate location between the two superpowers, enhanced the importance of the Arctic and consequently the potential for disagreement over questions of sovereignty. But the documentation prepared for the visit to Ottawa of the American Secretary of Defense, Louis Johnson, as well as the discussions which took place then, also demonstrated the unique rapport between two countries whose fates were so completely entwined. When the Cabinet Defence Committee examined Canada's defence requirements (Documents 918 and 919), this country's strategic position, as well as the connection between continental and North Atlantic defence, was underlined.

Most other bilateral relationships tended to be marginal interests for Canada, which attracted attention as a consequence of the arrival of a visitor or the revival of an irritant. By its normal standards, Ottawa was nearly inundated by a tidal wave of foreign ministers in the autumn of 1949. While the visits of Ernest Bevin (Documents 868 and 869) and Robert Schuman (Documents 1004 and 1005) were certainly welcome, the reception for Count Sforza (Document 1009) was less enthusiastic and that for Sir Zafrulla Khan (Document 867) was carefully measured against the treatment of the Indian Prime Minister. The vexatious struggle over custody of the Polish Art Treasures still complicated relations between Canada and Poland as well as the federal government's dealings with Quebec (Documents 1010-1017). Exchanges, whether of information or of propaganda, dominated the bleak landscape of Soviet-Canadian relations. The outcome of the civil war in China, with its implications for Canadian residents and for international relations generally, prompted an exceptional review of "Policy Towards Communist China" in early November (Document 1050), but it was still expected that Canada would recognize the new regime sometime in 1950 (Document 1055). That question too would ultimately be decided by the ebb and flow of the Cold War.

For this documentary record of Canada's international relations in 1949, I have drawn principally on the files of the Department of External Affairs (now the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade), the Privy Council Office and the Department of Finance, supplemented by other departmental records as necessary as well as by collections of private papers in the National Archives of Canada, including those of Louis S. St. Laurent, Lester B. Pearson, Hume Wrong and Escott Reid. The guidelines for the selection of documents in this volume remain those quoted in the introduction to Volume 7 in this series. The editorial devices are described in the introduction to Volume 9. A dagger (†) indicates that a document has not been printed in this volume; an ellipsis (...) represents an editorial omission. I had full access to the records of the Department of External Affairs in the preparation of this volume.

That task was made considerably easier by the assistance of many people. As always, the staff of the National Archives of Canada were courteous and helpful. Historians of Canada's international relations owe a particular debt of gratitude to