

of an *external* threat, either diplomatic pressure on Ottawa or clandestine support for Quebec terrorists, then U.S. interests would be more directly threatened and it could be expected to take more forceful measures to prevent foreign interference in Canada. What should be apparent to all concerned is that U.S. interests in Canada are so vital that Washington could not afford to permit any situation to develop in Quebec that resembled the situation in Cuba in the early 1960s or in Chile in the early 1970s – any more than the Soviet Union could tolerate an unfriendly regime in Poland, or China could in North Vietnam or Laos. This is the reality, it seems to me, if a political confrontation should occur in Canada during the next few years between Quebec and the rest of that country.

A positive result of Canada's increasing difficulties at home has been the improvement of relations between Ottawa

and Washington. This is partly attributable to the good rapport that has been established between Prime Minister Trudeau and President Carter. Canada's economic problems have also been a factor, since Canadians are today more aware of the significance for their economic well-being of a prosperous U.S. economy. But the most important contributing factor is the community of interests that has been developing during the past year and a half as Washington and Ottawa, as well as the Canadian and American peoples, have come to realize that Quebec is a North American problem, not simply an internal Canadian issue. During 1977 and 1978, Americans have had to confront, and resolve, a deep emotional problem to the south, in Panama. In 1979 and 1980, Quebec may become an equally urgent issue, and it is to be hoped that it too will be resolved in a peaceful and friendly manner.

Ethiopia after the empire: a nation torn asunder

By Marc Parent

Before the Empire of the Negus fell, Ethiopia consisted of 14 provinces, but the Dergue in power at the beginning of 1978 controlled only half of these. Of the other seven provinces, Eritrea was struggling for independence, Begemdir, Tigre and Gojam were engaged in open war with the central military power and Harar, Sidamo and Bale were occupied by Somalia. The Addis Ababa government, with massive help from the U.S.S.R. and Cuba, is now in a secure position on the southern front after defeating the Somali troops in the Ogaden. The secession of Eritrea, however, remains a thorny problem. Those who are fighting for its independence are even more determined that the Somalis who fought in the Ogaden. There also remains the task of re-establishing normal life within the country (something that Ethiopians have not known since the revolution), with all that this implies.

The revolution manifested itself openly for the first time on September 12, 1974, when the Negus was arrested in his palace. The military junta thus succeeded without shedding any blood. However, since the new regime was a military dictatorship, opposition to it gradually developed and

became organized. Resistance appeared everywhere, passively in the Government – and even in some units of the army, – and actively among the people, especially students and trade unionists. Having gained some coherence, this internal opposition split into two main movements – the Ethiopian Democratic Union (EDU) and the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP).

Though the EPRP and the EDU pose a direct threat to the central power, it is not likely that, by themselves, they will in the near future contribute to a reversal of the state of affairs in Ethiopia. However, assisted by external opposition from Eritrea and Somalia, these movements could have played a key role in the development of the situation in this region – and, indeed, in

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