

Our relations with the United States are vital. It is a truism to say that the super-power to the south affects us in innumerable important ways. Both officially and privately, Canadians welcome their close ties with the United States and cherish the mutually beneficial relation which has grown up. But there can be no question of Canada's conceding its freedom of action. As part of the Western world, we work together with the United States internationally in many areas. But, if we differ with the United States on international issues, as, for example, on Cuba and trade with Communist China, we adopt our own position and follow our own course of action. Similarly, we welcome American investment and count on the contribution it continues to bring to our industry and resource development; yet we insist that foreign companies in Canada act as good corporate citizens within the laws of this country.

All countries, large and small, must accept restraints on their freedom of action - the twentieth century has made us increasingly interdependent - but, within this general framework, Canada pursues an independent foreign policy. At the base of our policy decisions is our concern to promote Canada's long-term interests.

Canada's influence in the world has grown significantly. Before the Second World War, we had little power, little influence and little interest in the world. In a generation, there has been almost an explosion in our involvement and influence. Based upon our wartime contributions, economic growth, political and military alliances, international experience and involvement in world-wide issues, we have significantly enlarged the area in which our views and actions have had an impact upon the course of events in the world. We have a knowledgeable and positive voice, which is listened to with respect everywhere. The power relations of countries have been changing; the relative influence of countries will not be the same in the next ten to 20 years as it was in the past. In the not-too-distant future Canada will be, by rough reckoning, as influential a country as any in the world with the exception of the super-powers.

The future for Canadian foreign policy depends on national unity at home. If we cannot come to grips with our domestic problems, if we cannot re-create our country in a way which will give equality to both our broad linguistic communities, we shall not have the strength and self-confidence to fulfil our destiny abroad. I think that Canadians are coming to appreciate the magnitude of our problem. They are also prepared to do something about it. I am confident that, with goodwill and a desire to see a new Canada, we shall emerge from our present crisis stronger and more united than ever. Not only more united but better able to realize our full potential in world affairs. Our bicultural-bilingual character will enable Canada to extend its close contacts and co-operation with countries sharing a common French language and culture.

Whatever our different views on how to deal with the problem of unity, there is one point on which Canadians should agree: we should solve our difficulties ourselves. We should not condone the unwelcome intrusion of any outsider, however prestigious, in our affairs. Only if we attack our problems ourselves can we hope to resolve them and be worthy of our future.

Our international goals of peace and development will remain unchanged. The forums and the methods we have used to reach these goals in the past, however, may have to be altered or even discarded. They have served their purpose well,