

## CANADA AND WORLD ORDER

For Canada and every single Canadian, these great changes and challenges in world order will determine whether conditions of peace and prosperity will prevail. Moreover, the world looks to Canada for special contributions to building this new order because of its capabilities, its historical record of innovation and participation, and a political culture which has been viewed as one of the world's best models for the management of linguistic, ethnic and regional diversity.

Canada's world role has been insufficiently understood and insufficiently appreciated by post war generations of Canadians to contribute as much as foreigners would expect to the fibres of national pride, unity and purpose. The obsessive popular preoccupation with testing every foreign policy action, *pro* or *con*, against those of our superpower neighbour, obscures the real achievements and potential of one of the world's leading middle powers, and that same fixation debases and bowdlerizes much of the Canadian foreign policy debate.

This new era of order-building in the world is not an easy one for Canadian foreign policy. Our unparalleled record of support for the UN, honourably discharged through peacekeeping and many other contributions, now calls for the ultimate commitment to arms if necessary. It also calls for creative and tough-minded diplomatic and political contributions to do everything we can responsibly do, to make that terrible final sanction unnecessary.

The UN Charter was written amidst the ashes of the second world war and an era of barbarity that threatened all civilized values. The Charter was clear and firm about the requirements of maintaining peace and security and its provisions merit re-reading today (see annex). Canada participated fully, proposed its own article (No. 44) which was accepted, and repudiated the legacy of the "low, dishonest decade" of the nineteen-thirties by accepting the new Charter's tough responsibilities and obligations.

After the huge contributions of the war, Canadians saw and accepted themselves as full participants, with a clear and realistic idea of how to share the responsibilities and costs of international action. If four decades of paralytic confrontation between superpowers has led