

to act on it decisively and effectively. That picture gets its shape from information gathered from a variety of sources - public or official - and sifted and analyzed systematically. The correct focus can only be achieved if all the elements of a particular policy question can be looked at in a conceptual framework which represents the main lines of national policy at home and abroad".

Having made the two more or less obvious points that Canadian foreign policy should be designed to achieve Canadian objectives and that we live in an unpredictable and dangerous world, the foreign policy review then turns to the means at hand of trying to achieve Canadian objectives.

Here, I warn you, we enter upon what is bound to be debatable ground and I offer only one guiding principle, and it is this. Let us, in our foreign policy, as in our private and collective lives, try to "do our thing". We are not a great military power - we do not aspire to be one. We cannot determine the great issues of peace and war. Canada is, however, strategically located. By international standards it is comparatively rich. It is a great trading nation. It occupies an extensive land-mass and has one of the longest coast-lines. We speak two of the principal languages of international discourse. We have a well-established tradition of democracy and social justice. Our people and their forefathers came to Canada from all parts of the world.

As the foreign policy review puts it, "Canada's available resources - money, manpower, ideas and expertise" should "be deployed and used to the best advantage so that Canada's impact on international relations and on world affairs generally will be commensurate with the distinctive contribution Canadians wish to make in the world".

Perhaps one other general comment is in order. The foreign policy review is concerned primarily with the principles of foreign policy rather than with specific issues, although some of the specific issues are discussed as applications of these principles.

You will not, for example, find a discussion of the Middle East crisis or of the Vietnam war, of Cuba, or of events in the Commonwealth Caribbean or of many other urgent matters that engage the daily attention of my officials and myself. These are for the most part particular events abroad to which we have to react.

What you will find in the papers is an attempt to lay down a framework for the consideration of policy, as a guide to our Government and people and to the governments and peoples of other countries in their relationships with us.

In constructing this framework we asked ourselves this question: What does a modern government try to do in promoting the interests of Canadians?