

poorest. Some of these same nations -- Egypt, Vietnam, Syria, China, Jordan -- are among the leading recipients of world economic assistance. Peru is by far the major recipient of Canadian development assistance in Latin America. Canada also gives economic assistance to El Salvador, China and Chad.

A nation's development needs and its government's perceived need to spend on armament are clearly separate and distinct. For rich nations, ability to contribute to international development assistance and willingness to do so are also separate. So too is a rich nation's willingness to spend on armament and international development. The Soviet Union spends a great deal on the first and little on the second, about a 10 to 1 ratio. Norway spends only twice as much on its military as it does on development assistance, about a 2 to 1 ratio. Japan spends relatively little on either, 1 percent of its GNP on the military and 0.3 percent on development assistance. France, the world's sixth largest military spender in real dollar terms is also the third largest spender on development assistance in real dollar terms, and the fifth largest in percent of GNP terms. Governments of both rich and poor nations continue to see development needs and development assistance, on the one hand, and military needs and military spending, on the other, as separate and unrelated spending choices.

SWORDS TO PLOUGHSHARES

If military spending and development are separate political and public policy choices, is it possible to suggest a relationship between the two? Is it realistic or useful to presuppose that spending decisions in one would affect the other; that disarmament and development would be mutually supportive?

Many believe there is such a relationship. Spending on armament while much of the world starves is seen as morally, politically and economically unsound and unjustifiable. Neatly combining the moral, political and economic arguments by using the term "theft," United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower, in an often quoted speech, said in 1959: