

also concerned and active, but there is something peculiarly North American -- peculiarly naive, critics would charge -- in the attitude of our two nations toward human rights. That something special is a direct result of our being the heirs and custodians of both the reality and the dream of the New World. "O my America! my new-found-land!" exclaimed John Donne to his mistress going to bed, and I hope that we in North America will never lose that same sense of wonder and joy in our contemplation of this continent, nor ever lose our eagerness to have others know the freedom that we have found here. Canadians and Americans thus responded with a great outpouring of indignation and compassion to the tragedy of the Vietnamese boat-people. Tens of thousands of Vietnamese refugees have been welcomed into both our countries, where private citizens have opened their hearts and homes and pocket-books to help them find the security we take for granted.

So goes the similarity. A few years ago, however, the USA was engaged in a terrible war in Vietnam. By January 5, 1973, that war and Canada's view of it had developed to the point where the Canadian Parliament adopted a resolution condemning U.S. bombing operations in North Vietnam. In these facts there lies