

most important concept for the protection of a country from unwarranted interference by another state. But there has grown up a balance between the absolute sovereignty which states claim and the generally-recognized rights of other states to be involved in the interests of their citizens abroad.

Canada could not tolerate other governments interfering in our own judicial processes on behalf of their nationals, nor should we take kindly to outraged or intemperate criticisms of our judicial practices.

The second constraint, and one that I consider most important, is the question of effectiveness. We have found that quiet persuasion and unpublicized *démarches* are extremely effective in many cases. There are two important factors that modify the actions of states in the treatment of foreigners, within the latitude allowed by their laws; one is world opinion and the other the bilateral relationship with the countries of the foreigners concerned. It is often effective for our representatives to note that, by not showing some comprehension in a certain case, the general relationship between the country concerned and Canada is damaged.

I sometimes receive suggestions that we take drastic action toward this or that government, that we sever trade or aid relations, or that we should make our concern known through highly-publicized demands and threats. This seems to me to be a sort of verbal "gunboat diplomacy" which Canadians will surely consider obsolete.

I ask the persons involved whether the important thing is the public assertion of our position, or the relief of the immediate problem. Most Canadians would agree, on reflection, that the important thing is to resolve the question. Public declarations of righteousness are a luxury that one can dispense with.

Another factor is that any unnecessary publicity concerning a question can often cut across our diplomatic efforts to resolve the question, and can create fresh difficulties for other Canadians living or travelling in that country.

I have spoken at some length of difficulties with foreign laws, but there are also a great many other circumstances in which Canadian officials can be of help.

Deaths and illness occur while Canadians are abroad; they become injured, they lose money or passports or are victims of robberies. Because of international conflict or local tensions, they may