

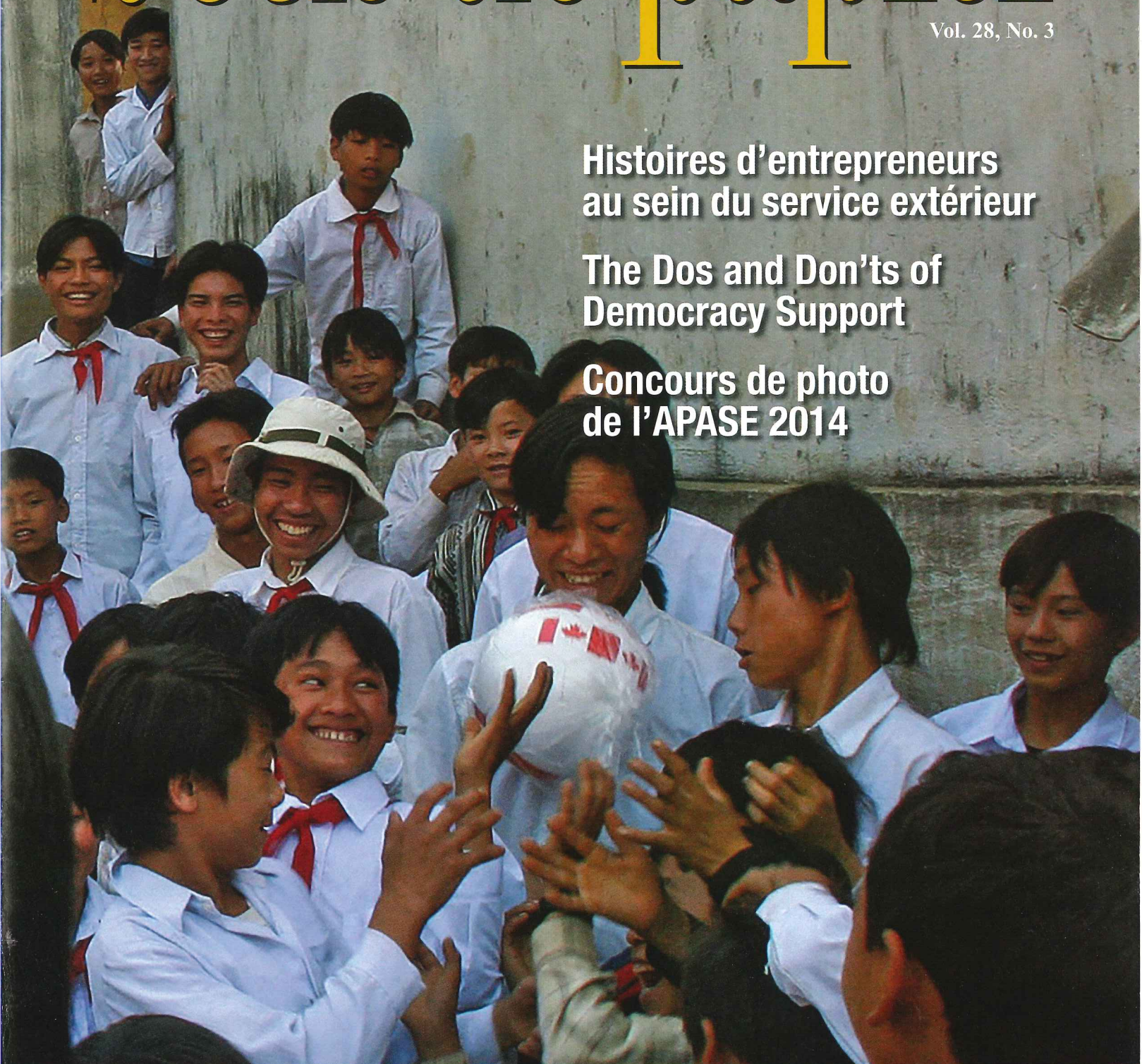
bout de papier

Vol. 28, No. 3

**Histoires d'entrepreneurs
au sein du service extérieur**

**The Dos and Don'ts of
Democracy Support**

**Concours de photo
de l'APASE 2014**



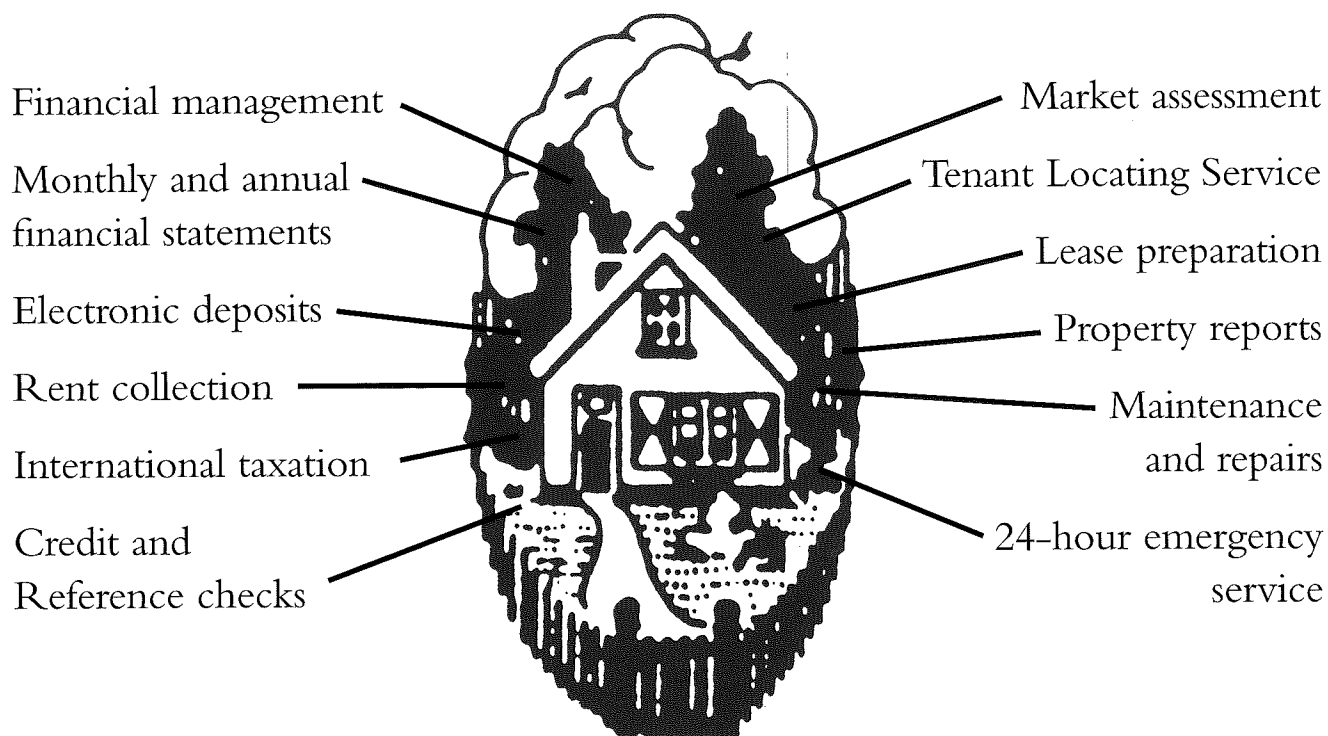
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Le magazine canadien de la diplomatie et du service extérieur



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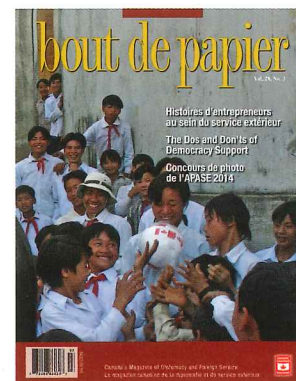
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"Keep your eyes on the prize"

In his *Mot du Président* in this issue, PAFSO President Tim Hodges writes about the state of talks with the government on "amalgamation" and the Foreign Service. He indicates that the future looks problematic, both in colloquial sense and the more standard OED version: doubtful. Of course we should hope for the best – as he does – for badly needed reform and renewal, and PAFSO is working diligently to that end, but it appears we may be embarked on another challenging voyage.

Quoi qu'il en soit, nous devons nous concentrer sur ce qui importe vraiment, « garder l'œil sur le prix » comme le dit le vieux dicton. Mais, de quoi parlons-nous? Selon moi, le prix, c'est la marque que pratiquement chacune des contributions des membres de l'APASE et d'autres éléments de la grande famille du service extérieur imprègne au magazine, à savoir : viser l'excellence et le professionnalisme au service des citoyens et des citoyennes du pays, contribuer de manière valable à un pays meilleur et à un monde plus sûr (« *desiderantes meliorem patriam* » quelqu'un?) et partager les pratiques exemplaires, les leçons tirées et même un peu d'humour entre nous, comme le ferait toute profession saine et réputée.

In this issue we celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit – that imbues many of us – with a look at Foreign Service Officers, past and present, who harnessed skill sets honed in diplomacy to make the leap to the private sector. Needless to say, that was done on their own time. We explore the dos and don'ts of effective support for democracy in an increasingly authoritarian world; we look at surfing (no kidding) as the metaphoric balancing act we sometimes perform in negotiating other treacherous waters; and, we look back at the Cold War as seen through the eyes of a committed Canadian "warrior". But most apposite is an obituary: Paul Heinbecker's moving tribute to the late Geoffrey Bruce.

Bruce created the first division dealing with international environmental issues at the old External Affairs, headed up the Canadian delegation to the historic 1972

UN Stockholm Environmental Conference that led to the creation of UNEP... to which he later became Canada's Representative. He played a key role in the precedent-setting Brundtland Commission and was, in Heinbecker's words, "...a leader of his generation in recognizing...that bustling economic growth, accelerating population increase and rampant exploitation of natural resources would ultimately degrade the earth and overwhelm our biosphere." He helped make reconciling economic growth and environmental protection the standard for responsible development that we know today. Readers should see the

In this issue we celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit – that imbues many of us –with a look at Foreign Service officers, past and present, who harnessed skill sets honed in diplomacy to make the leap to the private sector.

obituary for more on Bruce's professional legacy, but he was also the epitome of the best of Canada's Foreign Service culture. Again in Heinbecker's words, "...he was a gentle man, the most elegant I have known, unfailingly courteous and welcoming, a friend with a wry and sometimes rueful sense of humour, an eye for the ironic or absurd and a readiness for fun. To his peers he was a joy to work with. To his juniors he was a mentor, as much older brother as boss."

Je peux en témoigner. J'ai servi avec Bruce à une occasion. Il était ministre à la mission auprès de l'ONU à New York lorsque j'ai été affecté pour trois mois à l'Assemblée générale, comme agent le plus subalterne possible. Ce qu'il m'a appris m'a bien servi tout au cours de ma carrière : que ce qui importe, ce n'est pas où on sert, mais avec qui on sert; que les bons gestionnaires prêchent par l'exemple et tirent le meilleur de ceux et celles qu'ils supervisent; qu'il n'y a pas de contradiction entre être rigoureusement professionnel et être très aimable; et que la véritable démocratie, la lutte pour le bien commun, est enracinée dans la force, la vision, la

compétence et l'humilité. Il a aussi démontré que le professionnalisme se perfectionne avec l'expérience et que l'affûtage des talents diplomatiques ne finit jamais.

So what is the "prize" on which we need to keep a sharp eye? In my view it is to ensure that Canada's Foreign Service will continue to be a breeding ground for future diplomats of Geoffrey Bruce's calibre so that this country's interests and values are truly well defended and promoted. However, if amalgamation ultimately proves to be another exercise in downsizing, there will be little hope left

for a new generation of diplomats of Bruce's stature, to our collective loss.

Nous ne sommes pas seuls dans nos préoccupations. L'Institut professionnel de la fonction publique du Canada (IPFPC/PIPSC) a énergiquement protesté contre le musellement des scientifiques canadiens au sein de la fonction publique fédérale et l'ingérence politique dans leurs recherches et leurs rapports parce qu'il estime que les deux font énormément de tort aux Canadiens et aux Canadiennes... Cela ne devrait guère surprendre les diplomates. La réforme et le renouveau véritables sont des éléments cruciaux de notre bien-être institutionnel et seront la mesure de notre réussite à trouver de nouvelles façons de servir les Canadiens et les Canadiennes. Cependant, les enjeux vont bien au-delà des préoccupations d'un agent négociateur; ils concernent la question beaucoup plus importante de savoir quel genre de Canada nous habiterons. ☺

– Stuart Hughes

The Future of a Misunderstood Profession / L'avenir d'une profession incomprise

Senior American diplomat James Burns recently remarked that diplomacy, while not quite the oldest profession, "remains one of the most misunderstood." We well know that it is not only in Washington where there is a periodic questioning of the relevancy of foreign ministries and of its on-the-ground practitioners. Ottawa is certainly no exception.

De fait, comme bon nombre de lecteurs le savent, le MAECD envisage depuis plusieurs mois de modifier sensiblement le mode de gestion de ses ressources humaines, tant à l'AC que dans les missions. On ne connaît pas précisément la genèse de cet exercice, mais on sait qu'il coïncide plus ou moins avec le processus de fusion actuellement en cours. Le peu de détails alimente la spéculation et l'incertitude partout au MAECD et dans les diverses classifications.

One idea and the only idea to emerge openly from senior Departmental management is to establish a single classification at DFATD termed "international officer" or "IO" classification. As described by

Une institution proactive comme le MAECD [...] ne devrait-elle pas assurément examiner toute une gamme d'options?

some, it has the distinct features of the current Foreign Service (FS) Officer. How it might differ is, again, unknown. One is reminded of the old adage – "If it looks like a duck, swims like a duck...then it probably is a duck."

Certains supputent que ce modeste projet d'« AI » constitue de la part du ministère une tentative détournée et peut-être naïve d'effectuer la fusion et de « se débarrasser de sa némésis », l'APASE.

I must underscore that I do not subscribe to such speculation, as I believe the relationship between PAFSO and management at both DFATD and CIC is one of mutual respect and need. From the outset of my

tenure, senior managers' doors in both departments have been open. And they remain so.

Cependant, je n'en reste pas moins perplexe devant un exercice qui semble avoir favorisé une option dès le départ. Une institution proactive comme le MAECD, dont l'environnement opérationnel devient de plus en plus complexe face au rythme croissant du changement, ne devrait-elle pas assurément examiner toute une gamme d'options?

Since launching the HR vision exercise, the Department's precise intentions have been unclear. This remains the case. Despite our requests, DFATD has failed to provide a substantive articulation of what problems the "international officer" is meant to fix or to provide a description of this new classification. The reality to date is that bargaining agents have been informed of the ideas of management without a real opportunity to start with the nature of the problems and then work, jointly, to address them.

Je dois aussi faire remarquer qu'à ma connaissance, on ne s'est pas encore penché sur les incidences de l'exercice de RH du MAECD sur les agents du service extérieur à CIC.

I do not believe DFATD's human resource policies are without problems. Managers and employees from all employment groups are voicing their frustrations with the current staffing processes. Shortcomings abound and much remains to be done to address challenges posed by amalgamation, legacy issues, the dearth of promotion opportunities and the need to ensure we remain a relevant foreign ministry in the future.

On nous a « assuré de nouveau » que, selon les hauts fonctionnaires du MAECD, on aura besoin d'un service extérieur professionnel dans l'avenir. De fait, pour défendre et promouvoir les intérêts canadiens et atteindre les objectifs du Canada en matière de politique étrangère, il est difficile d'imaginer qu'un ministère des affaires étrangères puisse être efficace sans un service extérieur professionnel.

As this issue of **bout** goes to press, the future direction of DFATD's amalgamation remains unknown and the ultimate aim of its HR visioning exercise remains under-defined. Nevertheless, we are fully committed to helping senior Departmental management further shape its HR vision for the future – thereby creating a more resilient and effective organization prepared for a rapidly changing operating environment.

Shortcomings abound and much remains to be done to address challenges posed by amalgamation, legacy issues, the dearth of promotion opportunities and the need to ensure we remain a relevant foreign ministry in the future.

Il faut pourtant avouer que l'avenir de l'APASE et du service extérieur canadien est incertain à ce tournant de notre histoire. Le fait que les professionnels du service extérieur, sans exception, forment le cœur des ministères des affaires étrangères dans les pays qui comptent à l'échelle mondiale devrait toutefois nous donner confiance.

As readers know, Foreign Service Officers also do not work in isolation from other colleagues. Indeed, we continue to work closely with other bargaining agents and representatives, as I believe that in the best foreign ministries, an effective foreign service is accompanied by equally effective and professional home service.

Dans un avenir plausible, où le Canada continue de compter sur le plan international, je vois le service extérieur continuer à jouer un rôle clé dans la promotion des intérêts du Canada et l'établissement d'une prospérité et d'une santé mondiales durables.

Here's to that future! ☺

Timothy Hodges
President, PAFSO

Oser! Histoires d'entrepreneurs au sein du service extérieur

propos recueillis par Joya Donnelly

Être diplomate et entrepreneur à la fois, est-ce possible? Le service extérieur est-il une bonne école pour développer son leadership et son esprit d'entrepreneuriat? **bout** est allé à la rencontre de trois jeunes entrepreneurs issus du MAECD qui ont récemment osé se lancer en affaires pour découvrir ce qui les a motivé à faire le grand saut : Jeff Heaton, Frédérique Tsai-Klassen et Louis-Félix Binette.

Un congé sans solde pour fonder son entreprise – prendre des risques sans perdre sa sécurité d'emploi

Jeff Heaton joined the Foreign Service in 2006, and came up with the idea for ChefX while on posting in Geneva. ChefX delivers to your home in Ottawa a weekly box containing one or two recipes and all of the fresh, portioned ingredients required to make them. The recipes are from well-known local chefs, and the ingredients are sourced from local and artisan producers whenever possible.

Jeff had always wanted to learn to cook better but had never found the time to do so, even less so in Geneva where he was busier than ever. *"I was already in the grocery-delivery mindset having been frustrated by Swiss grocery stores always being closed when I got off work, and had tried grocery delivery a few times. And I took some Indian cooking classes and realized how easy it was to cook a complicated sounding meal when everything was laid out in front of me. All of this kind of came together and I thought, what if someone could deliver this to me at home? And I started to get excited about all the interesting angles and directions it could take"*.

After his posting in Geneva, Jeff came back to Ottawa and took a position at HQ. But the seed was planted, and after a year back at Pearson he started to explore leave options to start his own business. He was able to get a one year leave without pay (LWOP), which he later extended by another eight months.

ChefX started its deliveries in October 2013, with eight customers, six of whom were friends from DFATD. Now, DFATDers make up around 15 percent of his customers.

According to Jeff, DFATD was a fantastic training ground for all sorts of skills that apply in the world of entrepreneurship: writing, networking, marketing, managing budgets, working with different stakeholders, public speaking, time management, stress management. However, Jeff says that he also had to "un-learn" certain DFATD tendencies, especially in the tone and language of emails, *"basically there's less preamble and less formality in general in the outside world!"*

The option of a LWOP allowed Jeff to take the risk of starting his own business, and guaranteed him the security of a good job to go back to afterwards. *"I think that many see a government job as the 'golden handcuffs', and there's a lot of truth to that – the opportunity cost to trying an uncertain alternative is simply too great to justify taking the risk. But my experience with a LWOP is exactly the opposite: the ability to take a LWOP to pursue this venture while maintaining my job security was for me a 'golden opportunity' – I was able to take the risk because at the end of the day I knew I had a great job and a great career to come back to."*



Photo courtesy of Irma Ortega, Ortega Photograph and Design

Jeff Heaton

Le partenariat – essentiel pour mener son entreprise et sa carrière de front

For Frédérique Tsai-Klassen, opening her restaurant Das Lokal in September 2013 has been a very empowering, creative and rewarding experience. It had been a life-long dream of hers, and finally came to reality when she and her husband (a former FS) came back from their posting in Berlin, where she was teleworking for the Afghanistan Task Force. She recalls how it all started: *“I reconnected with Barbara Wery-Boole, my business partner, at the Deutscheschule where our kids go to on Saturday mornings, and it was probably around a good bottle of wine that we started dreaming, then planning, Das Lokal. Once we found our ideal location on Dalhousie Street, we had to make our pitch to the building’s owner who had a competing bid from a big coffee-shop corporation. We are so glad he chose to go with us!”*

From that point on, it took Frédérique and Barbara about nine months to plan and renovate the place. Unlike Jeff Heaton, Frédérique did not take a LWOP to start her business, but took her annual

holidays around the time of the opening, and dedicated a lot of evenings and week-ends to the project. Barbara is the managing partner at Das Lokal, and Frédérique, who still works full-time for DFATD as a non-rotational employee in strategic communications, is at the restaurant a few evenings per week and sometimes on week-ends too. The most common element she sees between her two jobs is the management of personnel, and how in both places it is important to mentor employees and provide them with relevant training to help them perform.

Her posting in Germany clearly was a source of inspiration for the business: *“Barbara is German and I have lived in France and Germany, so we both have*

been very influenced by European culture and ‘art de vivre’.” This influence is noticeable at Das Lokal in both the ambience and the menu. *“The idea was to create a small neighbourhood restaurant where beautiful food was prepared, but where the ambience was warm, cozy and inviting so that people are relaxed and having a wonderful time with friends. We have live jazz on the piano on Friday and Saturday nights, a very nice way for people to ease into and enjoy their week-end.”*

The concept of Das Lokal clearly appealed to colleagues at DFATD, as some of them even suggested nicknaming Das Lokal the “E Tower”. Frédérique is very grateful for the support she has received from DFATD colleagues.

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Photo courtesy of Frédérique Tsai-Klassen

Customers enjoying an evening of music at Das Lokal.



Photo courtesy of Frédérique Tsai-Klassen

Staff at Das Lokal going over the new menu.

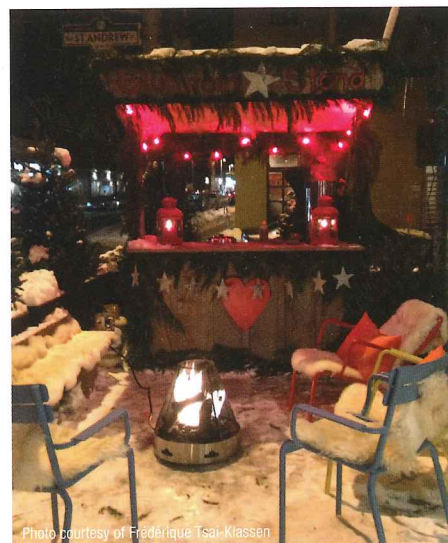


Photo courtesy of Frédérique Tsai-Klassen

Das Lokal gluhwein stand in winter.

Le grand saut – oser remettre sa démission pour passer à autre chose

C'est vers la fin de son affectation au Consulat général à New York, en 2009, après sept années passées au ministère, que Louis-Félix Binette a décidé de prendre une pause dans sa carrière de diplomate et de retourner sur les bancs d'école. En septembre 2010, il entame une maîtrise en sciences de la gestion au HEC Montréal. C'est là qu'il s'intéresse au management de la créativité et de l'innovation. « *J'ai réalisé, avec celui qui allait devenir mon associé, que dans un monde éminemment complexe – économiquement, politiquement, socialement – il ne suffit pas, pour réussir, de savoir ou d'avoir déjà fait : il faut se réinventer, continuellement.* » En 2012, alors qu'il est encore aux études, Louis-Félix fonde f. & co, une société de conseil en créativité et collaboration. Les services offerts par f. & co touchent à la stratégie, au management et au marketing, et consistent à accompagner les gestionnaires dans des transitions importantes et souvent délicates.

Louis-Félix présente l'approche de sa boîte ainsi : « *Qu'il s'agisse de générer des idées nouvelles, de développer des projets d'affaires novateurs, ou de mettre en place un processus d'innovation dans une organisation, on cherche à intégrer par toutes sortes de moyens la créativité et la collaboration dans le processus. Notre apport prend plusieurs formes. Plutôt que d'arriver en experts et de "vendre" nos réponses, on expérimente avec ce qu'on trouve chez nos clients. On réunit des gens qui n'ont pas l'habitude de se parler, on organise des moments spéciaux, ou on établit des canaux pour faire entrer de la connaissance externe, laquelle peut inspirer, mais aussi choquer et ébranler. On utilise des techniques et des outils de créativité qui font émerger de nouvelles perspectives sur les problèmes perçus comme insolubles.* »

Le cheminement de Louis-Félix vers l'entrepreneuriat s'est d'abord inscrit dans une démarche de croissance personnelle. « *Je me suis lancé sur une envie d'être le plus honnête possible face à moi-même. (...) Si je n'arrive pas à devenir une meilleure personne, un meilleur ami, un meilleur partner, un meilleur gestionnaire à travers ce projet-là, peu importe le succès financier, j'aurai en quelque sorte échoué.* » Mais ce qui lui a donné le courage de « sauter dans le vide » c'est de se rendre

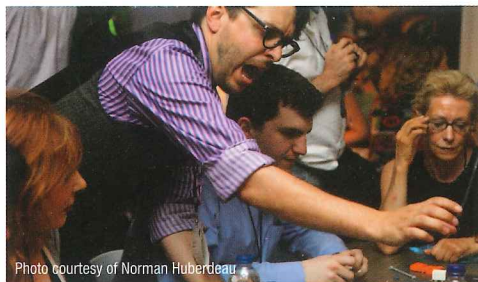


Photo courtesy of Norman Huberdeau



Photo courtesy of Norman Huberdeau



Photo courtesy of Norman Huberdeau

Louis-Félix et son associé Francis Gosselin en conférence à la Malbaie.

compte qu'il y avait beaucoup d'entreprises et de gestionnaires qui cherchaient à susciter de nouvelles idées et entamer des nouveaux projets, mais qui n'en avaient pas la liberté ou les moyens à l'interne. Il a senti qu'il pouvait les aider et il s'est lancé, « sans parachute »!

Bien qu'il ait finalement remis sa démission au MAECD en 2012, Louis-Félix a tiré profit de son passage au ministère. « *Le service extérieur a été une école exceptionnelle. D'abord, je m'y suis fait des amitiés éternelles. Mais j'ai aussi eu l'occasion de vivre des moments hors de portée du commun des mortels, d'une telle solennité que la plupart des rencontres d'affaires, en comparaison, sont presque banales. Dans ma vie de FS, j'ai le sentiment d'avoir appris les règles de l'art dans le domaine des relations – les compétences diplomatiques sont d'une redoutable efficacité dans le monde des affaires.* »

Cependant, ce ne sont pas que les aspects positifs de son expérience au ministère qui lui ont servi dans la création de son entreprise, il a aussi tiré des leçons des faiblesses de l'organisation. « *J'ai été aussi exposé, comme FS, à des organisations hautement*

déficientes, à une machinerie si lourde qu'elle écrase toute velléité de changement. C'est pour changer de telles défaillances institutionnelles et remettre l'humain, son intarissable créativité et l'incroyable puissance de la collaboration au centre de l'entreprise que j'ai lancé f. & co. » C'est d'ailleurs pour cette raison que si on lui demande s'il considérerait un retour au MAECD un jour, il se sent bien forcé de répondre oui. « *... Il y a encore tant à faire!* » 🌀

Joya Donnelly est un agent du Ministère d'affaires étrangères actuellement œuvrant au Conseil privé. Elle est un membre du Comité de rédaction de **bout de papier**.

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The Dos and Don'ts of Democracy Support

Lessons learned from two years of LWOP at the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA)

text and photos by Véronique Choquette

Democracy has been a priority of Canadian foreign policy for longer than I can remember. Albeit with varying institutional arrangements and funding levels, both DFAIT and CIDA (and the IDRC, and Elections Canada) have been implementing policy advocacy and programming initiatives related to democracy promotion since the 1990s. The Harper government's values-based approach to foreign policy has placed democracy alongside freedom, human rights and the rule of law as "values that define this country" and whose global enjoyment the newly merged DFATD is tasked with promoting.

Foreign Service Officers, together with other public servants, play a key role in fulfilling this task. While MIL and START have primary responsibilities for policy and programming related to democracy promotion, FPDS at missions abroad also administer grant programmes for which democracy-support initiatives are eligible – like the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives or the Post Initiative Fund. They identify and recommend allies and partners for Canada among local organizations and political actors, participate in national forums and roundtables on democracy, and report on their host countries' progress towards democratic consolidation.

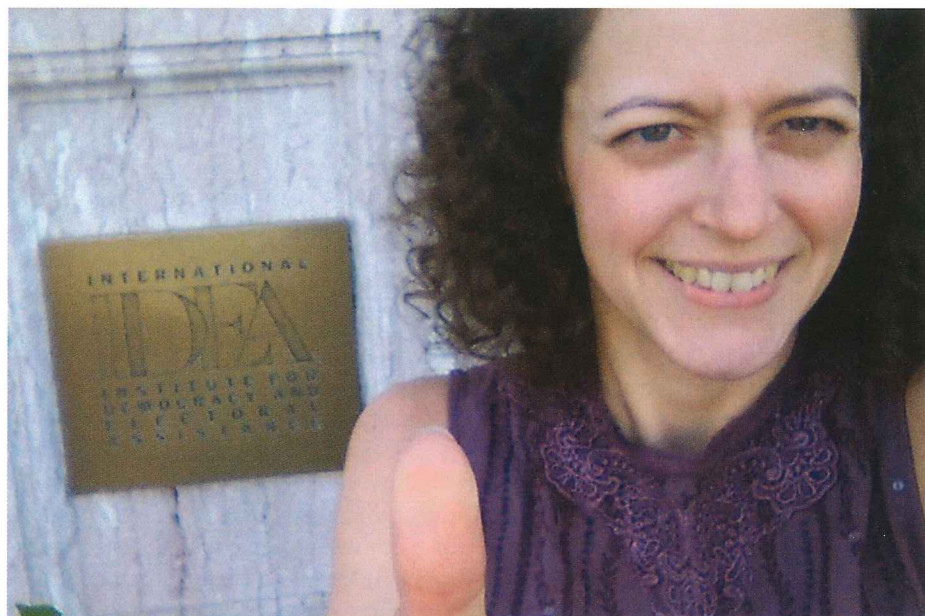
Yet, few Foreign Service Officers have thorough knowledge of democracy, and fewer have first-hand field experience of democracy building, particularly in transitional, unstable or fragile states where Canada's support is concentrated.

After six years as a Foreign Service Officer, I left DFAIT in 2012 – on leave without pay – to join the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), the one and only intergovernmental organization with the sole mandate of supporting democracy

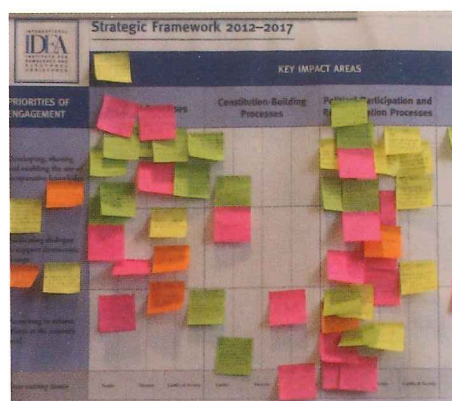
worldwide. Strong with 29 Member States, an annual budget around \$35 million, and some 170 staff in 16 countries around the world, International IDEA sounded like the ideal place to learn the inner workings of democracy support.

As part of a series of articles on what Foreign Service Officers do while on leave

without pay, **bout de papier** invited me to write about my experience at International IDEA. I wish I could have shared tales of action – explained how we have developed the Electoral Risk Management Tool (ERMTool), a software application that Kenyan officials used to identify and mitigate the risks of elections-related violence



Véronique Choquette



in April 2013; how we brought representatives of 60 Haitian political parties to sit at the same table and build consensus on key legislative priorities, including the new law on political parties that was adopted in January 2014; or how we advised the drafters of Tunisia's new constitution on issues of fundamental rights, the separation of powers and decentralization. These are all highlights of International IDEA's accomplishments in the last two years, and every member of the big International IDEA family can partake in their success. But the truth is that I was just sitting at my desk. As Kenyans were voting, Haitians were talking and Tunisians were proclaiming a new constitution, I was just sitting at my desk in the Strategic Planning Unit, gauging results against indicators and analyzing how far International IDEA had gone on the long path towards meeting its strategic objectives. It certainly does not make for very telling action shots – but it has made for a lot of learning about democracy, how to support it, and how not to support it. And this is what I have to share with you after two years at International IDEA: the *dos and don'ts* of democracy support, and what they mean for Canada.

1 DO remember that democracy isn't built in a day

Democracy, which International IDEA defines as a system wherein the government is controlled by the people and all citizens are equal in the exercise of that control, can only come about through a long process of institution building that, more often than not, requires some groups to relinquish power (or their aspirations of power) in the interest of other groups. It also takes a cultural shift for all citizens to become equal in the exercise of democratic control over government. Nearly 40 years after the

first world conference on women called for the full political participation of women, women still make up only 21% of parliamentarians worldwide – and consolidated democracies, like Canada (with 25%), fare not much better than emerging democracies on that score. Indigenous peoples, ethnic and religious minorities, members of lower castes and other marginalized – or squarely repressed – social groups may also take years to obtain and effectively exercise democratic rights. The Arab Spring of 2011 gave rise to high hopes for the advent of democracy across the Arab world, and the international community rushed in to support Egyptian, Tunisian and Libyan actors in holding democratic elections and drafting democratic constitutions, with ambitious agendas for a quick democratic transition. Three years later, all realize that the path to democracy in the Arab world will be messy at best, and will go on for years, if not decades.

It follows that international actors who wish to support democracy building must be armed with patience. Organizations like International IDEA, whose *modus operandi* is to work alongside with (not instead of) national institutions throughout democratic reform processes, must plan their support with a multi-year vision that accounts for the ebbs and flows of messy transitions. And they would, if only they could.

2 DON'T limit your support for democracy building to short-term initiatives

The problem is that most donors plan their financial contributions to democracy support organizations on a short-term basis.

Three one-year grants do not add up to one three-year grant if there is uncertainty in the middle.

Core funding contributions (ie. money given for an organization to spend wherever it decides – including on things such as office space, computers and support staff) are confirmed every year, with multi-annual funding agreements being the exception rather than the norm. Core funding is also on a downward trend, with donors increasingly preferring to channel their contributions through project grants, where they can decide where and on what activities the

money will be spent. Project grants – like STARTs – are generally awarded for short periods of time and made to fit within the donor's annual fiscal calendar, regardless of the timelines of the democratic reform processes ongoing in the host country.

The result is that democracy support organizations are often trapped in stop-and-go situations, where funding gaps oblige them to downsize or fully interrupt their activities in a country until a new project grant is secured and operations can resume. During those gaps, staff is dismissed or leaves, expertise is lost, national networks of contacts and trust relationships erode, and the multi-year vision that underpins the organization's engagement in that country falls one step away from achievability. Three one-year grants do not add up to one three-year grant if there is uncertainty in the middle.

3 DON'T expect that your programmes alone can change the world

There are examples of success stories where lasting impact on a country's democratic process was achieved through well targeted, short-term, low-cost initiatives. With one publication, two seminars and an address to the Senate, International IDEA was able to influence the new political and electoral laws adopted in Mexico in December 2013, which make it harder for illicit money to make its way into political parties' finance. With one publication presented to the right civil society organization, International IDEA was able to inform national debate on electoral justice in Indonesia, leading to the adoption of a stronger legal framework for the management of electoral disputes in 2012. But these success stories of "doing a lot with a little" are exceptions. Most successes in democracy support come after years of engagement and cost their share of money.

With fierce competition for project grants, democracy support organizations are sometimes tempted to seduce donors with grand promises of impacts. I have seen proposals, drafted by good-intentioned colleagues, for \$200,000 projects that would, over a 12-month period, result in free, fair and credible elections on an entire continent. Even worse: I have seen donors *request* that we define such grand impact statements, so that they could play them

back to their taxpayers to justify the sums awarded to our projects.

As a smart (Canadian) consultant once told us, even if International IDEA were to put all of its annual budget into one single country for the next decade, there is no guarantee that that country would end up being more democratic. While it is pretty safe to assume that providing people with mosquito nets will result in reduced malaria, the relationship between democracy support and actual democratic change is contingent on a multiplicity of external factors, not the least the political will of the country's leaders. Even when actual democratic change happens, it would be presumptuous for an organization to attribute it solely to its efforts, when so many actors are involved in driving and supporting democratic change in the country. Anyone who promises or claims results above and beyond the boundaries of their project and its direct stakeholders is just trying to seduce you – and if you request it of them, you are just asking to be lured.

4 DON'T let the big guy hide the small guy

The attempts by democracy support organizations and donors to push the limits of results measurement fits within a broader drive to make international cooperation more efficient. A leader in that area, Canada has developed a reputation of excellence in results-based management and stringency in procurement policies (a glass of wine and a business-class ticket, anyone?).

But the quest for efficiency has also resulted in a streamlining of the number of international organizations in which Canada participates and to which it makes a contribution. I believe the logic was that focusing on a smaller number of larger organizations would enable Canada to reduce the costs of administering its overall partnerships, while maintaining sufficient bang for its buck as a multilateral player.

In the area of democracy support, this approach has its dangers. International IDEA – a relatively small organization – gets value from its capacity to respond to the changing democracy landscape in an agile fashion. Like other small organizations, International IDEA has learned to turn its light footprint into a comparative advantage when it comes to adjusting plans, priorities and resource allocation quickly when the

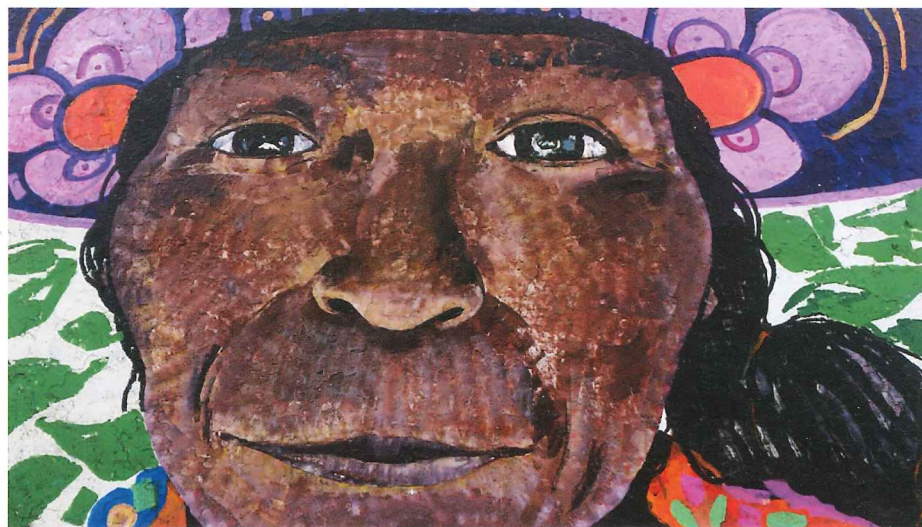
unexpected happens. It also has an easier time than larger organizations in securing the trust of host countries' national institutions and transferring ownership of its initiatives to them, particularly in those contexts where national leaders are wary of foreign intervention. This creates a niche that larger organizations are just too big to fill.

5 DON'T see democracy as an isolated issue

As UN institutions and Member States are gearing up to define a new global agenda for development after the Millennium Development Goals expire in 2015, various concepts related to democracy – such as human rights, rule of law and effective governance – have been part of the discussions, but the inclusion of democracy itself in the new framework is far from secure. Canada's stance on democracy promotion as a key pillar of foreign policy has also shown signs of wavering in the last couple of years. The 2008 Throne Speech promise to create a new Canadian foundation dedicated to democracy promotion has fallen into oblivion, dedicated units dealing with democracy in former DFAIT and former CIDA have been merged into greater policy areas, and the role of democracy in START programming is being watered down.

With the global balance of power shifting towards Asia, the argument that democracy yields more economic progress than other systems of government has lost its shine – indeed there are few statistics to support it. But the role of democracy remains unchallenged as an enabler of social development, and as the political system that most favours inclusion and peaceful conflict resolution. According to the United Nations' MY World Survey – a global initiative to inform the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda with the views of citizens from around the world on priority development issues – having honest and responsive governments is the 4th global priority, ahead of food security and water and sanitation. International security, human rights and religious freedom – all leitmotifs of Canadian foreign policy – all flourish better under democratic systems. Let's hope that Canada and the drafters of the global post-2015 development agenda don't forget. ☺

Véronique Choquette is a Foreign Service Officer on leave without pay, currently serving as strategic planning officer at the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).



“Without freedom of speech, I cannot talk about who is stealing my food.”

– Entry for International IDEA's call for quotes about democracy on International Day of Democracy 2013

Cold Warrior

My Career in International Peace and Western Security 1962–1982

selection and introduction by Ken Menzies

Note de la rédaction : « Tian Bei » ou « trésor céleste », tel était le nom honorifique chinois donné à Arthur Menzies, enfant de missionnaires canadiens en Chine qui devait devenir une sorte de missionnaire de la Chine au Canada. « Précieux » mentor de bon nombre des diplomates les plus réputés du pays, Arthur Menzies était aussi l'un des diplomates canadiens les plus qualifiés du XX^e siècle, que ce soit en mission auprès de l'OTAN en Chine, au Japon avec le général MacArthur, ou comme premier ambassadeur du Canada au désarmement. Son fils, Ken Menzies, a édité le dernier ouvrage d'Arthur Menzies, publié à titre posthume. Les extraits qu'il a regroupés ici empruntent un langage simple et direct qui donne aux lecteurs l'impression d'être assis à la table de cuisine des Menzies. Quelqu'un veut du café? (Arthur Menzies est décédé le 4 mars 2010 à l'âge de 93 ans; voir **bout de papier**, vol. 25, n° 2, et Michael Posner dans le *Globe and Mail*, 21 mars 2010.)

A letter from Dad while he was NATO Ambassador said: "We had our usual discussion of nuclear targeting." I realized two things. First, that while the rationale for nuclear weapons was MAD – Mutually Assured Destruction – the discussion actually made sense. If each side thought about which cities and defence installations to target to send a message that it was willing to wind down the war, some might survive. Second, that Dad – in fact – was a "Cold Warrior". This book is about the life of a Cold Warrior and his wife – of meetings at the highest levels, of the mundane but no less important exigencies of successful diplomacy, and of the role of domestic outreach that can be rather more unpleasant than international diplomacy itself.

Shortly before his death in 2010, Dad started to write his memoirs. The first of these, *Australia and the South Pacific: Letters Home, 1965–1972* (Penumbra Press), came out in 2009. This next book covers his life as Defense Liaison 1 (1962–65), NATO Ambassador (1972–76), and Ambassador for Disarmament (1980–82). It was largely complete at the time of his death. Like *Australia and the South Pacific: Letters Home*, it is based largely on my parents' letters to their extended family: my sister and I, Dad's sisters, and Mum's brother and sister-in-law. The *Cold Warrior* book is about the routine and day-to-day life of a diplomat and his wife, not policy analysis which remains in DFATD files. Working from letters written at the time helps catch the flavour of diplomatic life then.

I have selected several extracts from *Cold Warrior* to show how the book captures the moment. The first links to the quote which opened this introduction to the book. The point made – politicians must think seriously about MAD – comes from a letter by Dad to the whole family.

At the Nuclear Planning Group meeting (Editor's Note: NATO's senior body on nuclear matters) we had the usual

discussion about the problems ministers might have to face when deciding whether to use nuclear weapons in a war, and if they did, when and what type. The new U.S. Secretary of Defense, James Schlesinger, was impressive in his grasp of the subject and also shed light on the Defense Readiness Condition alert of U.S. forces ten days earlier. Our meeting spread over a day and a half. At the end, the ministers and I were received by Queen Juliana at the Palace. She took an intelligent interest in our meeting and then went on to draw the conversation toward the world energy crisis. Most of the talk was in English, but she switched into French and German and Dutch with ease. (From pages 70–71)

Much of the book deals with the daily exigencies of diplomatic life:

We were fortunate that all twenty of the guests we invited for our dinner at the end of November in honour of the new Governor General, Jules Léger, and Mme Léger turned up. Sheila was worried about whether they would, and worried even more about the staff, because in the mornings they had been about three hours late because of the continuing disruptions caused by the energy crisis. For the toast to the Légers, I made a good little speech, truly bilingual in being half in French and half in English, and Jules responded, mostly in French, in a light and amusing way. We spent most of the week preparing for the meetings of the Defence Ministers the next week, and of the Foreign Ministers of NATO the week after that.

The first full week of December there was a meeting of the NATO Defence Ministers and the Chiefs of the Defence Staff. I had all the senior Canadian commanders in Europe in for a seminar with General Dextraze on the Monday to bring the military up to date on political developments, and such things as the talks in Geneva on arms limitations. Our dinner at home on Thursday

night for Mr. and Mrs. Richardson and General and Mrs. Dextraze went quite well. The Minister travelled with such a large staff (we had to include all military personnel down to the rank of Brigadier General) that we had to keep it an all-Canadian affair. It was the same for the dinner for the External Affairs side we had later, except that on that occasion we dipped much lower to include the juniors involved as well. As I mentioned more than once to Sheila, when Mr. Richardson had come for the first Defence meeting I attended in 1972, he was very new in the job and knew very little. I found it much easier to brief him this time, but there was still a world of difference between a political person like him and a real experienced professional like Mr. Sharp. (From page 72)

The next extract presents what Dad felt was one of his major accomplishments: prodding the government to use military forces for overseas disaster relief – an earthquake in Italy. The conclusion that it was “well received in the Italian Canadian community” deserves elaboration. Votes are a politician’s currency and TV pictures of the Canadian military delivering aid in North Italy may have helped the government gain or hold several constituencies with a substantial proportion of Italian Canadians. The perceived payoff solidified the government’s willingness to use military forces for disaster relief:

In early May there was an earthquake in the Udine region, in northeastern Italy. Given the extent of the casualties and destruction, there was some discussion among NATO ambassadors about ways in which Alliance countries might show their concern, and at our suggestion the Acting Secretary-General issued a press release. The Chief of Defence Staff, General Dextraze, was still in Brussels, so I got in touch with him and asked if he would agree to my ascertaining what emergency medical assistance CFE (Editor’s Note: Canadian Forces Europe was Canada’s military formation in Europe during the Cold War) could provide, if we were able to obtain the authority of the appropriate ministers. He responded magnificently and instructed the Commander of CFE to get organized. Meanwhile I had got in touch with Ottawa, where the usefulness of the proposal was recognized, but general caution was expressed concerning who would pay the extra cost for fuel, etc. However, I was authorized to tell the Italian Ambassador what we might provide and to ask what might be needed. This I did, and fifteen minutes later he asked for all of it to go right away. There was another set of phone calls with Ottawa seeking ministerial approval. This came at about 8:15 p.m., and the first plane landed in the Udine area before midnight. Three flights were made during the night, and a road column of eighty vehicles set off at first light. Eventually two hundred of our men were involved. It had been a good exercise to test the alertness of CFE and to demonstrate in a practical way the solidarity of the Alliance. I found it fun to be the instigator and planner of the operation. However, it meant a lot of phone calls and telex messages. This effort on the part of the Government of Canada was well received in the Italian-Canadian community, a politically important consideration from the Government’s point of view. (From pages 128–129)

The last extract shows Dad’s moral commitment to citizen participation and his response to being involved in providing it while Ambassador for Disarmament.

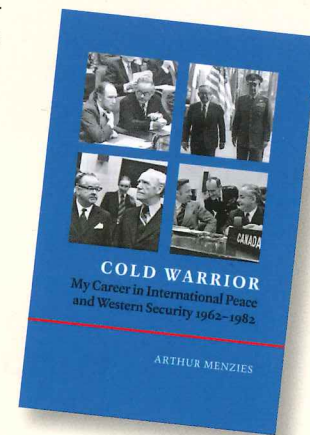
In Saskatoon I spoke to a meeting of about three hundred in Knox United Church, organized by Project Ploughshares. It began

with interventions by those not in sympathy with the government’s policies. I tried to explain that arms control and disarmament should be viewed as elements in our overall foreign and national security policies. Countries will only reduce their armaments if they are assured by verifiable agreements that potential adversaries are making comparable reductions. Countries or groups of countries on both sides will then feel secure, but they will be happy to achieve or maintain that security using fewer soldiers, less military equipment, and a lower defence budget. Thus, Canadian national security policies have three thrusts: membership in NATO, a defensive alliance; a persistent search for balanced and verifiable arms control and disarmament agreements; and a continuing effort to deal with the underlying political and economic causes of international tension.

These policies were not accepted by many non-governmental groups concerned with the arms race and the threat of a nuclear holocaust. They wanted the government to take more radical action: Canada should get out of NORAD and NATO, set an example of disarmament, and be an intermediary between the United States and the Soviet Union. There was also criticism of Canada’s being involved in armaments production and export. Others would have the government stop all exports of uranium and nuclear technology and equipment.

I respected the good intentions of these people and their groups. I pointed out that I was a servant of the government, and therefore an explainer of government policies. I pointed to some of the harsh realities of the world and the limited influence that Canada has in international arms control negotiations, and I recounted some of the initiatives Canada had taken in peace-keeping and in proposing disarmament formulas. Considerable numbers of those who attended my meetings did not accept my efforts. They used question periods as opportunities to state their views at length, to criticize government policies, and to attack me as an explainer of government policies. One young man in Calgary actually spat at me. The suggestion that in a democratic country the way to change government policies was by changing the opinion of a majority was not accepted. Some of the meetings dragged on for nearly three hours, and often the chairmen did little to keep them under control. Some of the sustained confrontations were pretty exhausting! (From pages 150–151) ☺

Published by Penumbra Press 2013



During his childhood, **Ken Menzies** accompanied his parents on their postings to Japan and Malaya. After an undergraduate degree in Politics and Economics at Queens, he did graduate work in Sociology in England completing a doctorate at the University of Essex. Returning to Canada in 1972, he became a professor at the University of Guelph. He has written two books on sociological theory and numerous articles largely on criminal justice topics. He lives with Ann Stallman and has one step daughter and two grandsons.



Magazines Canada



Photo courtesy of Plat DesRosiers

Surfing and Diplomacy

by Paul Gibbard

Surfing and diplomacy. What on earth (or water) could be the connection? In September 2013, after three years of living and working in Venezuela, I decided to take six months of self-funded leave in Barbados. My wife, also a Foreign Service Officer but posted to Barbados, and I had spent two years commuting back and forth to spend occasional weekends together. So I was delighted to be sharing a home again with her.

Looking for a complete change of pace and a way to decompress, I decided to learn how to surf. It seemed unlike anything I had done before, particularly my previous day job. Turns out I was wrong but I only discovered that later.

Barbados is a surfing paradise – relatively calm bays on the west and south coasts with killer waves coming all across the Atlantic to make the “Soup Bowl” on the east coast the site of surfing junior world championship competitions.

Some might find surfing boring. Only a fraction of your time is actually spent riding the waves. Mostly, you’re watching the horizon, day dreaming or analyzing (consciously or not) wave patterns. Generally, only a few waves will carry enough power and release it where you can use it. First, you need to identify which waves are worth your effort. Then, you need to be in the right spot to take advantage. Too far behind the wave and you’ll be left behind. Too far in front and you risk getting crushed, sometimes painfully. Believe me, that speeds up the learning process!

Sound familiar? Remember going on posting and for the first six months, if not more, feeling lost at sea? As diplomats, we try to understand underlying political, economic and social dynamics of the countries where we live or for which we are responsible. It’s usually a long – but necessary – process.

So, now you understand waves a bit and are ready to try to ride them. The next step is standing up on the board, which is a lot harder than it might sound. And once you’re up, staying up is not a given! It requires balance, agility and some courage. A few people are naturals and get the hang of it quickly. Others, like me, only get there with a lot of practice.

Like surfers, we as diplomats also have to decide when we’re going to stop watching the waves and take the next step. Our ability to make meaningful interventions, large and small, depends on correctly reading these patterns. When we don’t, we run the risk of being irrelevant as events pass us by. Or we may find ourselves caught up in events that overwhelm us.

Surfing rewards taking risks and making (the right kind of) mistakes. It’s how you learn. Scars on ankles, legs and chests are learning’s price and proof. However, minimizing the consequences is important. You

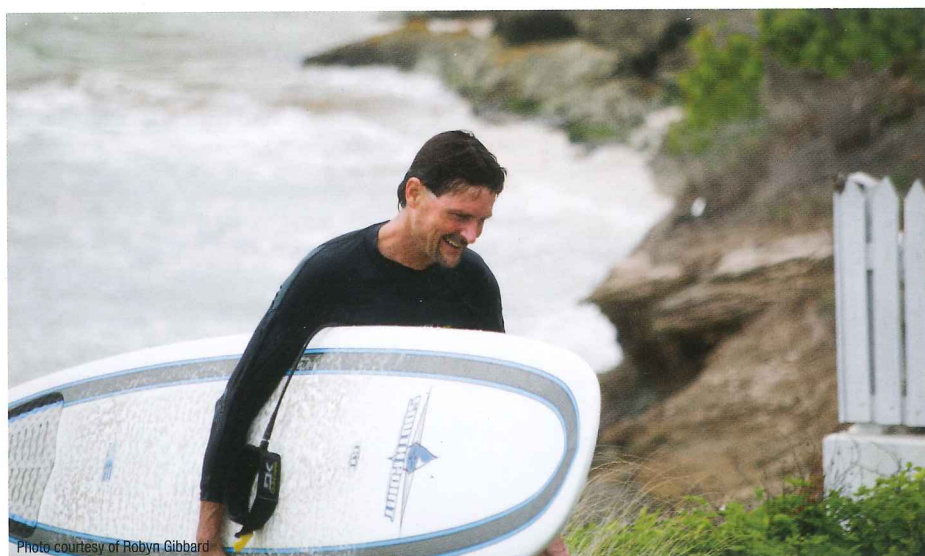


Photo courtesy of Robyn Gibbard

Waiting and studying wave patterns with my son.

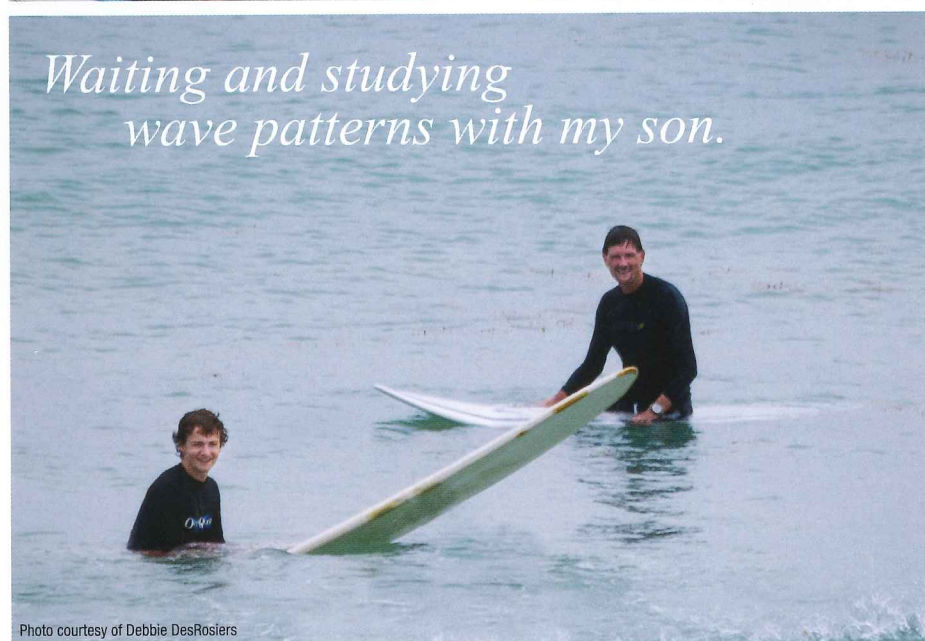


Photo courtesy of Debbie DesRosiers

Getting ready for “the drop”.

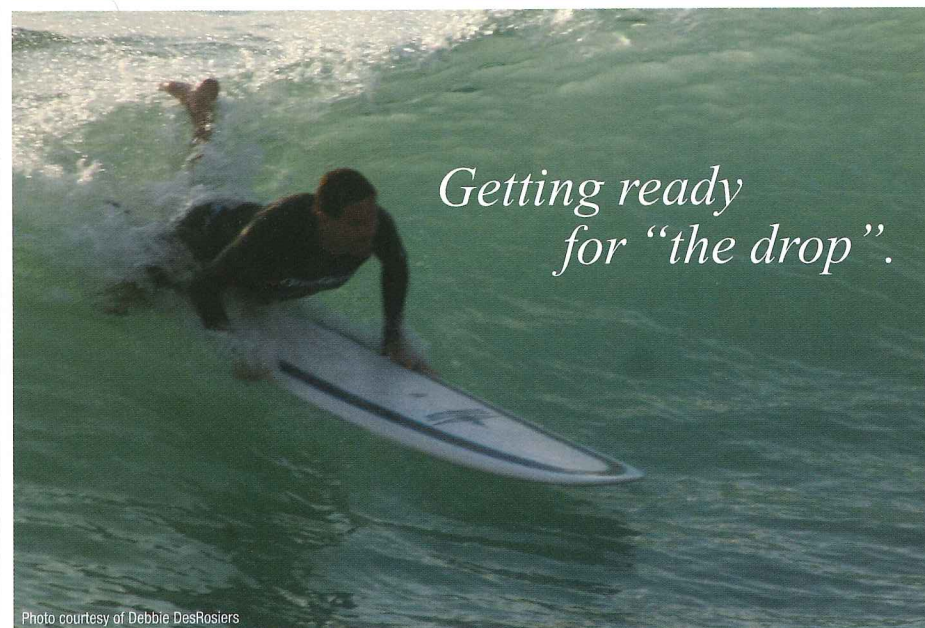


Photo courtesy of Debbie DesRosiers

want to avoid being buried by a wave and you especially want to avoid getting whacked in the head by your own board.

Given the DFATD reputation for over-achieving, it's hard to admit that we make mistakes. (I'm still waiting for that promotion interview question: "what was the worst mistake you've made and what did you learn from it"? And for interviewees believing that they could answer it truthfully!) But who are we kidding. We all (no exceptions, I'm afraid) make mistakes. It's all about limiting the damage and using it as a chance to grow and figure out a better way.

Like in diplomacy, learning to understand and ride waves goes much quicker if you learn the language, develop a network of contacts and draw on the knowledge and experience of others. Surfing has developed a rich vocabulary to describe waves and surfing conditions (e.g. gnarly) and to describe what to do and not do. For instance, when you "make the drop", you want to avoid "being worked" by the wave. It's also a really good idea to avoid "pearling" (digging the front tip of your board into the wave) or the result may be a spectacular somersault over the board prior to getting clouted on the back of the head.

As diplomats, I think we're adapting to a world where decision-making and knowledge is increasingly diffuse. The stereotype of diplomats spending their time hobnobbing with the obviously rich and powerful was probably never really true and makes even less sense now. We make useful contacts and learn important information in some unexpected places.

The same is true for surfing. It has a reputation for being the sport of young people obsessed or seduced by the sea. The obsession/seduction part may be right. However, the reality is that many people share the same passion and have knowledge to share: not just the surfing dude or wahine but other fellow surfers like the investment banker from Milan, the chef from a local restaurant, the director of a local Canadian subsidiary, and even the occasional former Ambassador.

Finding a mentor/teacher can be invaluable for both surfers and diplomats. I'm eternally grateful for those folks both at sea and at DFATD who have taken a rather awkward student under their wing. Those nuggets of insight are invaluable.

Surfing has become very tech savvy in recent years. Satellites track storms thousands of miles away and can help to predict when the waves they generate will hit local shores. Before leaving home, it just makes sense to check for the size of waves, their periodicity (the time between waves – usually, the longer the better) and wind direction for your local surf spots. Technology is becoming equally important for diplomacy. For instance, we're increasingly using social media to direct our messages and influence both a broader and more targeted audience than in the past.

All these things – understanding patterns, taking risks while honing our skills/trade, learning the language, building contacts, finding mentors, and using technology – lay the foundation. However, the real good surfers are a step ahead. They see changes in wave patterns and change position to take advantage. They don't just ride the waves into shore; they harness that power and "carve" the waves, moving back and forth to generate their own momentum.

I'm envious! Blind luck still plays a big part in any "sick" moves on my part. I understand the parallel with diplomacy – we also strive to position our countries to take advantage of opportunities. At our very best, we're ahead of the curve, intervening with the right people at the right time for maximum results. Really stretching the metaphor, we can imagine, at least for a brief period of time, generating our own bubble of momentum in trying to shape the world.

Sound a bit farfetched? Well, dreaming was one of the things that led me to surfing in the first place. Surfing has also increased my appreciation for our craft of diplomacy. What we do can require as much skill, intellect, soul and courage as riding a monster wave or gliding through a barrel wave, completely surrounded by water on three sides.

Who says surfing doesn't have anything to do with diplomacy?

Thanks to my wife, Debbie DesRosiers, son Robyn and daughter Piaf, for the inspiration, encouragement and comments. Thanks also to surfing great Alan Burke for his advice. All mistakes are mine! ☺

Paul Gibbard was posted to Costa Rica, Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela, and now accompanies his spouse in Barbados.



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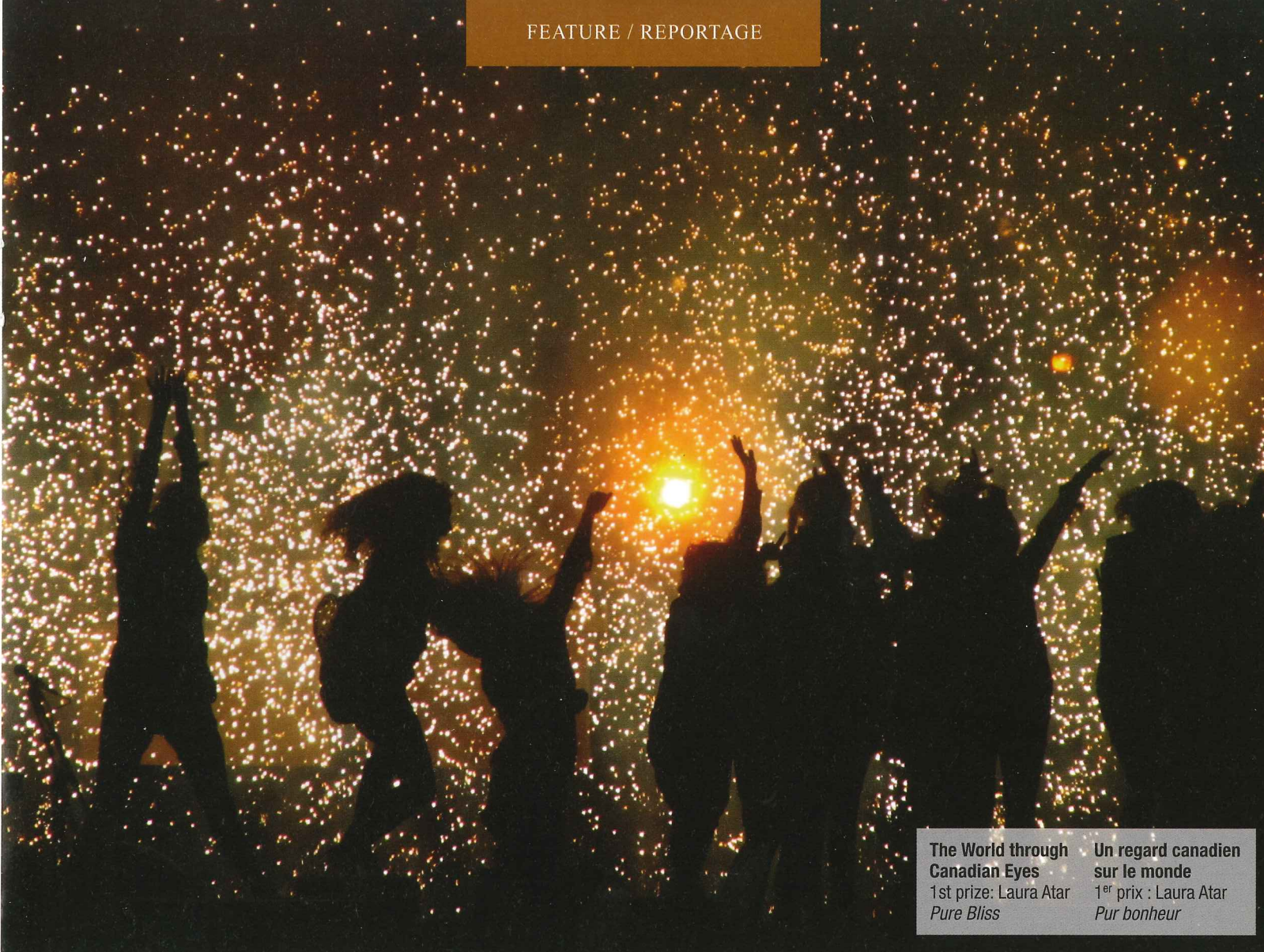
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**The World through
Canadian Eyes**
1st prize: Laura Atar
Pure Bliss

**Un regard canadien
sur le monde**
1^{er} prix : Laura Atar
Pur bonheur

Concours de photo de l'APASE 2014

2014 PAFSO Photo Contest

Cette année, l'APASE a innové en créant deux catégories distinctes dans lesquelles ses membres ainsi que leurs conjoints et personnes à charge, pouvaient participer. En plus de sa catégorie traditionnelle intitulée « Un regard canadien sur le monde », laquelle met en valeur des photos percutantes prises partout dans le monde, l'APASE a créé une seconde catégorie intitulée « Les agents du Service extérieur : la première ligne du Canada à l'étranger ». Cette catégorie vise à souligner les réussites des agents du Service extérieur et la valeur qu'ils apportent aux Canadiens de même que les aléas et les défis auxquels ils font face en raison de leurs fonctions.

Dans la première catégorie, la photo de Laura Atar intitulée « Pur bonheur » s'est vue décerner le premier prix. Cette

photographie a été prise durant le festival Bluesfest d'Ottawa en 2013. Amy Colbourne et Nicole Lunstead ont, quant à elles, remporté les deuxième et troisième prix dans cette catégorie.

In the category "Foreign Service Officers: Canada's Front Line Abroad", Jeff Senior's photograph showing members of the Nigerian military dismounting on the outskirts of Agadez in the Sahara/Niger desert was chosen as the first-prize winner. Robert Burley and Erin Koenig respectively won the second and third prize.

The judging committee of the PAFSO 2014 Photo Contest also awarded honourable mentions to the following photographers: Robert Burley, Stéphane Charbonneau, Robert Dutka, Matt Friesen, Scott Giesbrecht and François Quenneville-Dumont. 🌐

**The World through
Canadian Eyes**

2nd prize: Amy Colbourne
Tea Worker of Assam, India

**Un regard canadien
sur le monde**

2^e prix : Amy Colbourne
Travailleuse d'une plantation de thé à Assam, Inde

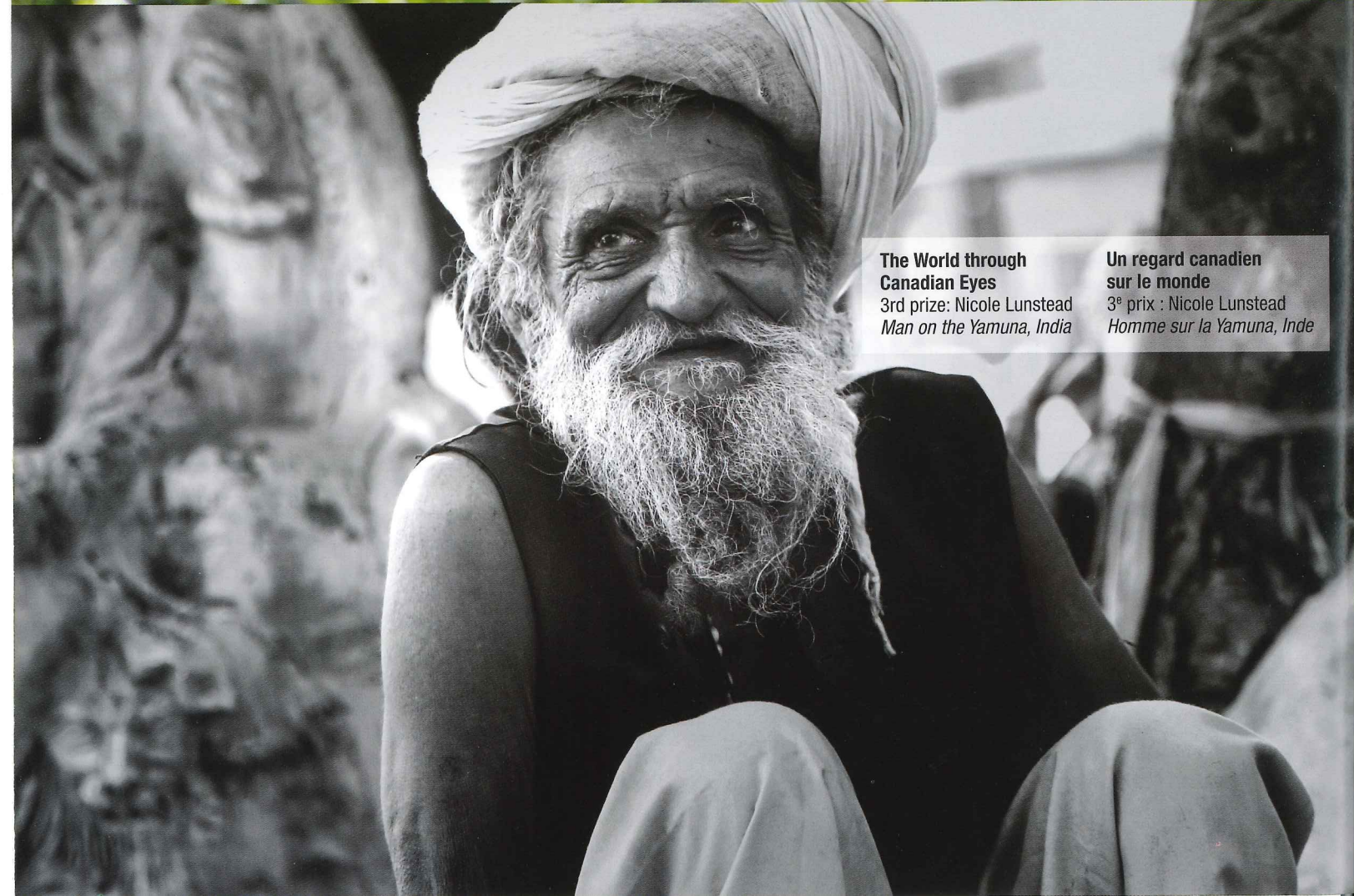


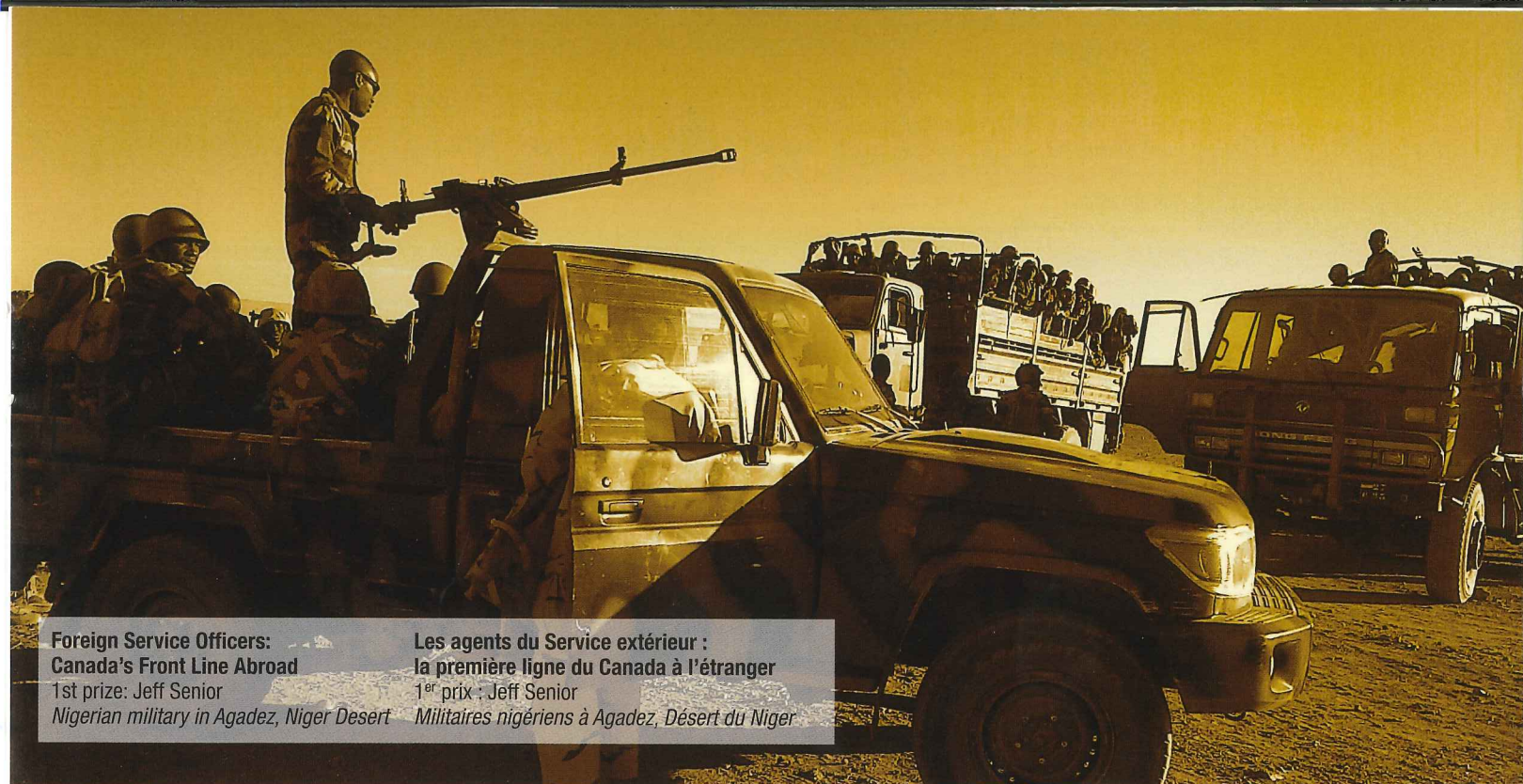
**The World through
Canadian Eyes**

3rd prize: Nicole Lunstead
Man on the Yamuna, India

**Un regard canadien
sur le monde**

3^e prix : Nicole Lunstead
Homme sur la Yamuna, Inde





Foreign Service Officers:
Canada's Front Line Abroad

1st prize: Jeff Senior

Nigerian military in Agadez, Niger Desert

Les agents du Service extérieur :
la première ligne du Canada à l'étranger

1^{er} prix : Jeff Senior

Militaires nigériens à Agadez, Désert du Niger



Foreign Service Officers:
Canada's Front Line Abroad

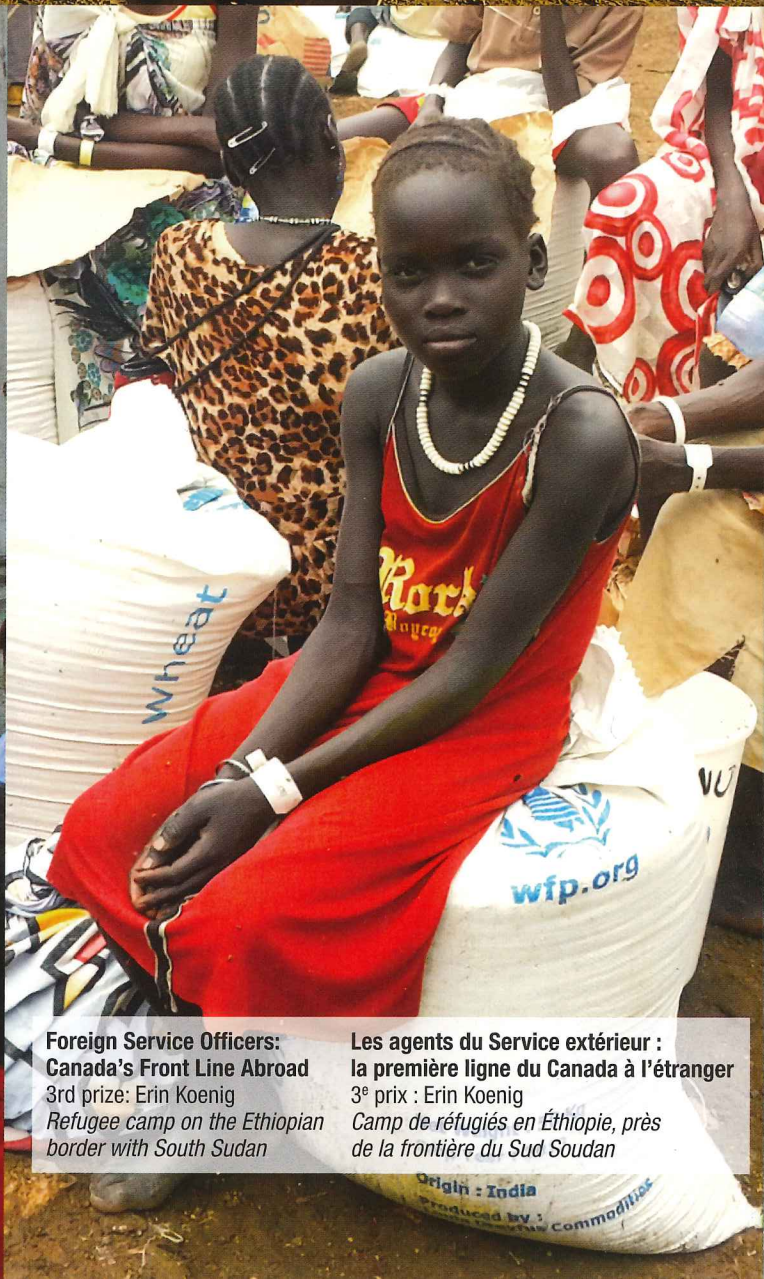
2nd prize: Robert Burley

Fun at a Canada Fund for Local Initiatives-supported school in Vietnam

Les agents du Service extérieur :
la première ligne du Canada à l'étranger

2^e prix : Robert Burley

Moment de plaisir dans une école appuyée par le Fonds canadien d'initiatives locales au Vietnam



Foreign Service Officers:
Canada's Front Line Abroad

3rd prize: Erin Koenig

Refugee camp on the Ethiopian border with South Sudan

Les agents du Service extérieur :
la première ligne du Canada à l'étranger

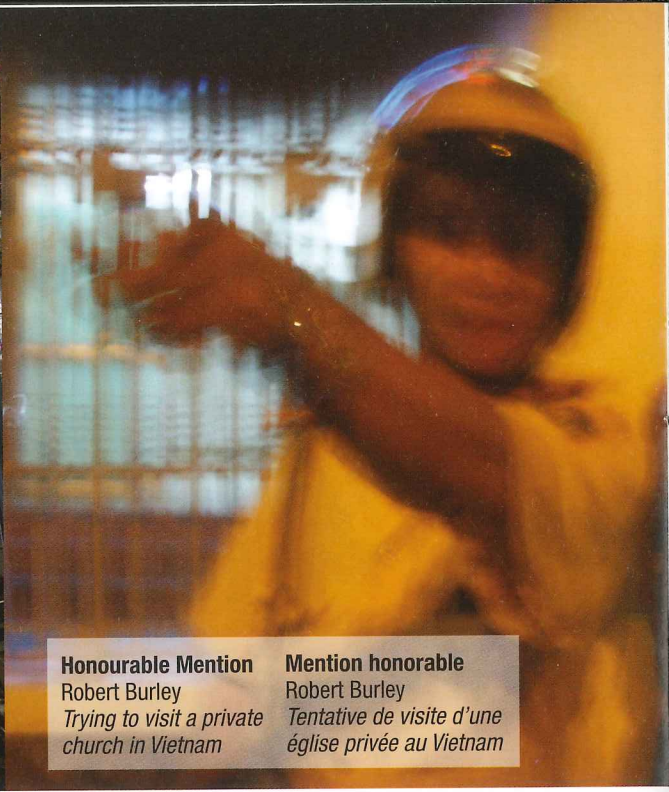
3^e prix : Erin Koenig

Camp de réfugiés en Éthiopie, près de la frontière du Sud Soudan



Honourable Mention
Scott Giesbrecht
Kaleidoscopic Crossing,
Tokyo, Japan

Mention honorable
Scott Giesbrecht
Intersection kaléidoscopique,
Tokyo, Japon



Honourable Mention
Robert Burley
Trying to visit a private
church in Vietnam

Mention honorable
Robert Burley
Tentative de visite d'une
église privée au Vietnam



Honourable Mention
Robert Dutka
Baby Charm,
Udaipur, India

Mention honorable
Robert Dutka
Envoûtement de bébé,
Udaipur, Inde

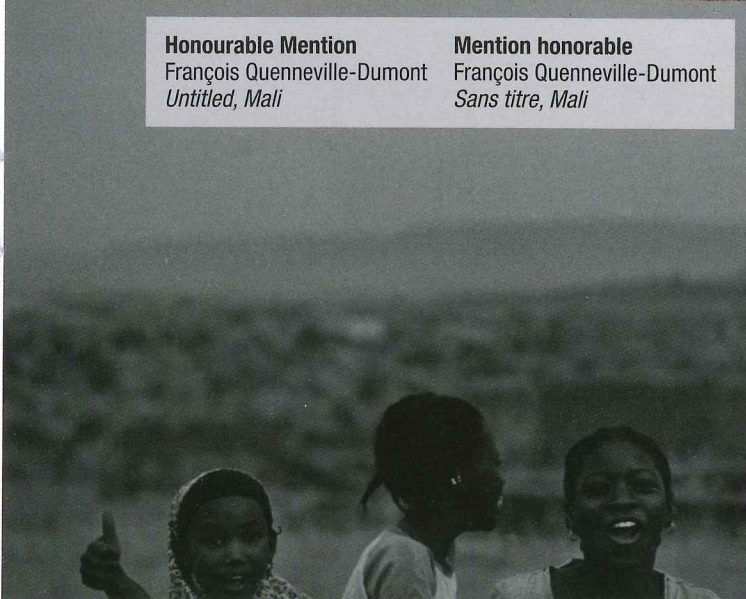
Honourable Mention
Matt Friesen
Dubai

Mention honorable
Matt Friesen
Dubai



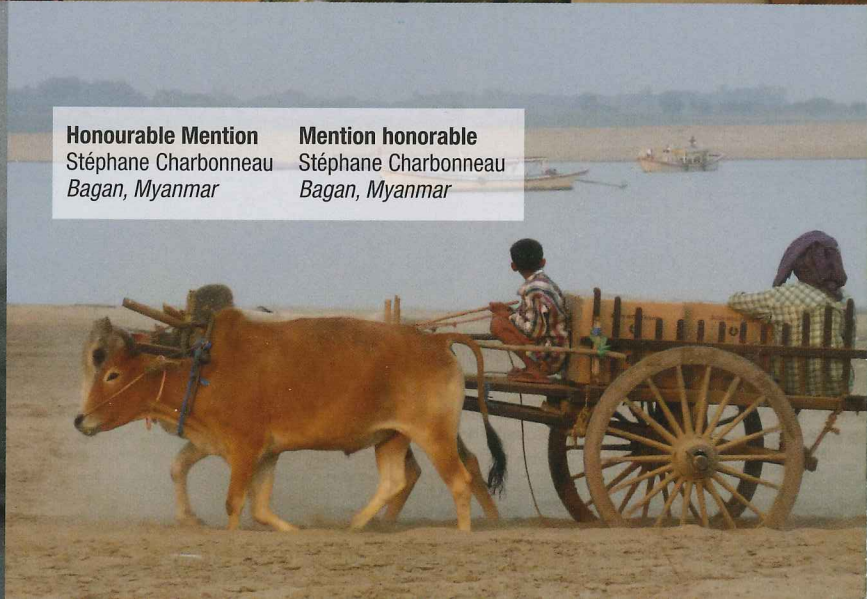
Honourable Mention
François Quenneville-Dumont
Untitled, Mali

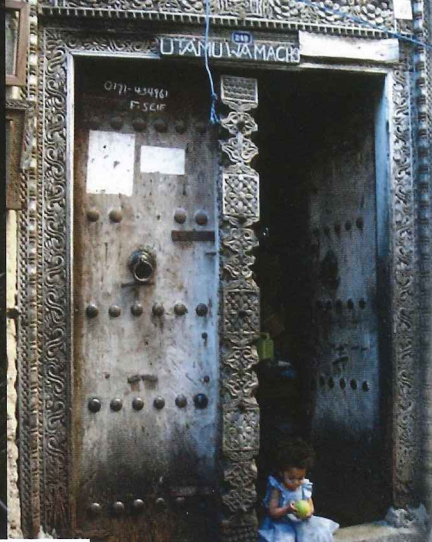
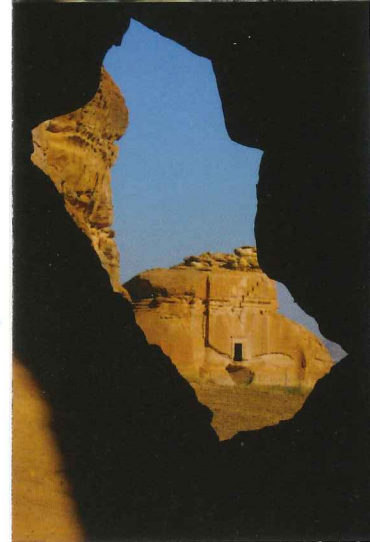
Mention honorable
François Quenneville-Dumont
Sans titre, Mali



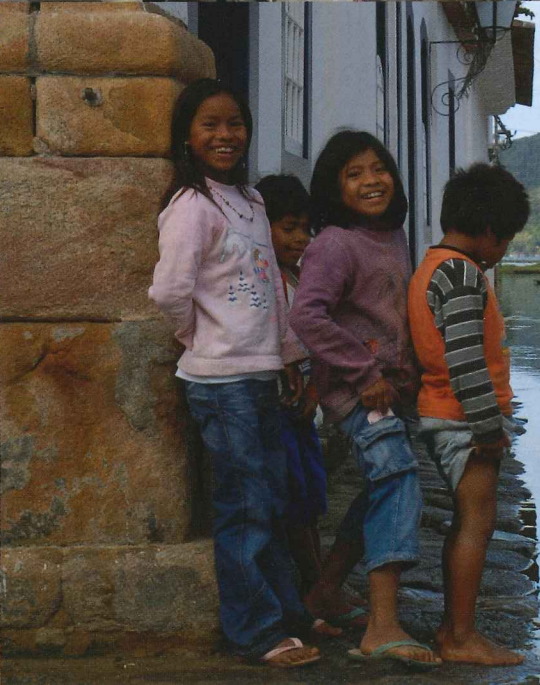
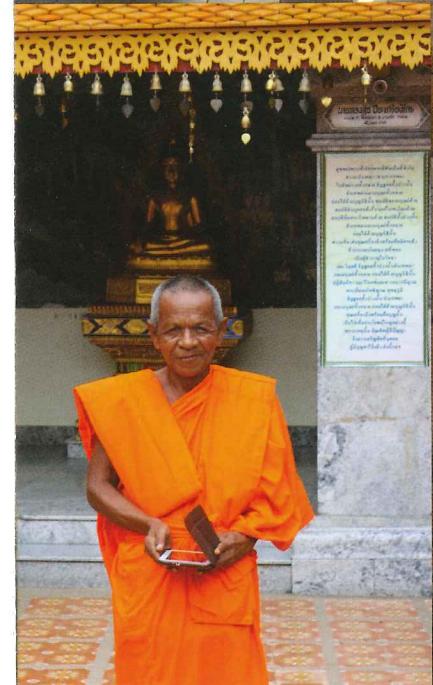
Honourable Mention
Stéphane Charbonneau
Bagan, Myanmar

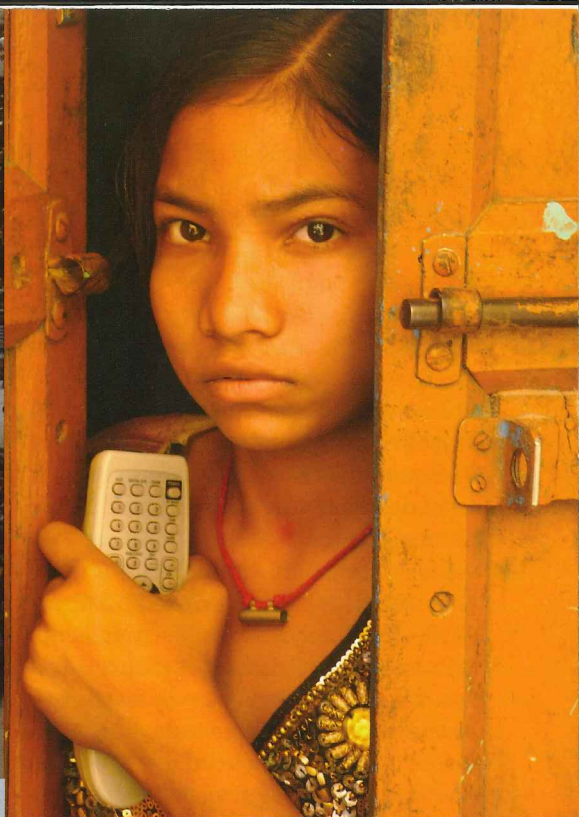
Mention honorable
Stéphane Charbonneau
Bagan, Myanmar





NOTABLE ENTRIES | PARTICIPANTS EXTRAORDINAIRES





Geoffrey Bruce

1925–2014

Editor's Note: The following is adapted from the tribute by Paul Heinbecker at the Memorial Service held to celebrate Geoffrey Bruce's life (St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church on September 23, 2014).

I can only skim the heights of Geoff Bruce's years of diplomacy and accomplishment in a few short paragraphs. I won't delve into his contributions to his beloved Winthrop College or Queens or Columbia, or his brush with McCarthyism in the Fifties, or his invitation to Hyde Park by Eleanor Roosevelt, or his friendship with Leontyne Price, or the numerous awards he earned along the way. In preparing this tribute, I have consulted my own memory and the recollections of others who worked with Geoff and respected and admired him.

I first met Geoff when I returned from Ankara on my first posting there, in 1970, and joined the Science Secretariat of the PCO. Geoff was in the process of creating the first ever environmental division in the then External Affairs Department, what came to be known, informally at least, as the Scientific Relations and Environmental Problems (not "Programs") Division in External Affairs. ECS as I believe we called it then. A year later at Geoff's invitation I joined the nascent division.

As far as Geoff was concerned the title "Environmental Problems" referred to what we *did* – we addressed ourselves to problems that were emerging as the global economy grew and integrated. Others, less progressive and charitable than Geoff, thought "Environmental Problems" referred to what we *were* – the motley crew of officers Geoff assembled for the division – the late Dorothy Burwash, Gary Vernon, Chris Spencer, Joe Moffatt, Tony Campbell, David Low and yours truly, among others. Looking back, I can see that perhaps both sides had a point.

Geoff's creation and leadership of that division broke new ground for the department. It also set Geoff personally and professionally on a lifelong course of promoting three of his core beliefs – the imperative of protecting the environment, the importance of multilateral cooperation, especially through the United Nations, and the necessity of supporting the poorer, mostly ex-colonial countries as they

struggled to develop and to help their peoples to live lives of greater dignity, comfort and meaning. He was convinced of the advisability of integrating all three and the practicability of doing so. He was a leader of his generation in recognizing, in his own words, that bustling economic growth, accelerating population increase and rampant exploitation of natural resources would ultimately degrade the earth and overwhelm our biosphere.

Many have claimed to be present at the creation of something – Geoff actually was. In 1967, he was present at the creation of the UN's environmental vocation, when the UN General Assembly called for the first world conference on the environment. Five years later, Geoff led the Canadian delegation to that very successful conference – the epic 1972 Stockholm Environmental Conference. That conference raised consciousness globally as few other conferences have done. It triggered an enormous body of international and national environmental law and practice. Hundreds of multilateral environmental agreements have been concluded since Stockholm! As Minister in the Canadian Mission to the UN in New York, and subsequently, as the Canadian Representative to the nascent UN Environmental Program in Nairobi, Geoff helped bring the Stockholm environmental program into being.

In 1983, Geoff was present again at a creation, this time the creation of the World Commission on the Environment and Development, which came to be called the Brundtland Commission, after its chair, Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway. It was perhaps Geoff's most consequential work. Many have claimed paternity for the success of bringing that Commission into being, but no one had a stronger claim than Geoff and no one worked harder to make it happen. That Commission, which was also backstopped by another Canadian of Geoff's generation, Jim MacNeill, reconciled the previously irreconcilable – economic growth and environmental protection.

Henceforward "Sustainable Development" became the standard by which progress was, and is, measured.

Geoff was intrinsically optimistic and idealistic, but at the same time very clear-sighted. He believed in the UN and understood the great good that member states were capable of achieving, when they worked together through the UN family of organizations. He understood as well that the UN had its frailties and its failures, and he did not balk at skewering them, as Reid Morden recalls from their New York days together. And Geoff further understood that those failures were often the fault not of the institutions but of the member countries themselves, especially the permanent five Security Council member countries, who determined what the UN could do – and could not do. He was also a strong believer in Canada's role in the UN, and that Canada could, and should, use the standing that successive Canadian governments had earned to advance Canadian interests and values.

As Reid Morden and Jeremy Kinsman both commented in recalling their New York days with the Bruces, Geoff was civil but he did not shrink from "telling truth to power" (in that now overworked expression) but in telling that truth he was never strident, never rude but always firm and his arguments were always backed up by facts and solid argument.

Geoff was also a poster boy for diplomacy – respectful of others, curious and observant, articulate and intelligent and filled with purpose and determination. Jeremy Kinsman recalls that Geoff was "the most popular guy in the Delegates' Lounge. Yemenis, Costa Ricans, Singaporeans, Ghanaians, Yugoslavs, even East Germans...They all LIKED him..."

Geoff also knew where Canada's bottom lines were and how to stand his ground. He wasn't "going along to get along" at the UN, an accusation we hear so often these days. He was making the place work, in Canada's interests and others' too.

Geoff was convinced, in his own words, "that the profound universal demands for equality and for economic and social justice" would continue to dominate world affairs for generations to come, if the poor of the world were to be lifted from poverty, disease and illiteracy." Geoff's reading of the future, his diplomatic skills, his humanity and his core beliefs – in protecting the environment, in multilateral cooperation, and partnering with the poorer, mostly ex-colonial countries made him the ideal choice to head CIDA's Policy Branch in 1982 and its Business Cooperation branch a couple of years later. During his tenure at CIDA, the Agency conducted a major review of its environment and development policies and practices, developing standards that guided CIDA policy-making in this crucial intersection of interests and values.

Although some of us, with fading memories, need jogging of the dimensions of Geoff's extraordinarily rich and consequential career, I do want to contribute a few words on Geoff as I knew him. He was a gentle man, the most elegant I have known, unfailingly courteous and welcoming, a friend with a wry and sometimes rueful sense of humour, an eye for the ironic or the absurd and a readiness for fun. To his peers he was a joy to work with. To his juniors he was a mentor, as much older brother as boss.

We should rejoice in Geoff's life and extraordinary career; but, as Geoff would have been the first to acknowledge, he did not succeed alone. Erika Bruce and Geoff were a great team, Erika his full-fledged partner. Whether in New York, Nairobi or Lisbon or Brussels (where their roles were reversed), or in Ottawa, Erika acted with style and grace, with intelligence and purpose, exuding professionalism and substance; and, in her own right, was an extraordinary asset for Canada.

Geoff was a good and constructive man. In the words of his friend, Gordon Whitehead, Geoff "saw the world whole, warts and all", and sought to make it better. "Geoff's life," in the words of his friend Victor Goldbloom, "was a commitment to a better country and better world." We are all the poorer for his passing, but those of us who knew him are all the richer for it. ☺

Paul Heinbecker is a retired Foreign Service Officer.

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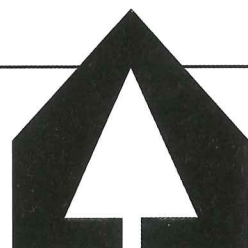
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How We Lead – Canada in a Century of Change

reviewed by John Graham

HOW WE LEAD – CANADA IN A CENTURY OF CHANGE, by Joe Clark, Random House Canada, 2013, 273 pp., \$30 CDN.

Re-reading Joe Clark

For many of us, there is not much to cheer about these days in Canadian foreign policy, but we can't say it's boring. Blogs, newspaper editorials and op-eds clang with the vigorously opposing views of those denigrating or praising the Harper world vision. There is no shortage of books assessing our foreign policy. Some of these are excellent. For example Paul Heinbecker's convincing dissections and persuasive prescriptions in *Getting Back in the Game* (Key Porter Books). An earlier book, Andrew Cohen's *While Canada Slept* (2003, McClelland and Stewart) reminds us that the decline of Canadian foreign policy (for those who subscribe to the "decline" view) began before Stephen Harper. But none have been written with the salience and authority of Joe Clark's *How We Lead – Canada in a Century of Change*.

Although Mr. Clark sees many shadows ahead, he finds none of them daunting. Asked by the media what he hoped his book would achieve, the author responds that he hoped it would stimulate constructive debate about Canada and international affairs. This seems to be working as there have been three re-printings in hard cover, a paperback edition and a French language edition *Agir de concert: le Canada dans un monde en mouvement* since the book was released in November of 2013. Almost a year after its publication, a second look is in order as Canadians consider how to engage effectively in a world growing less capable of listening and more dangerous.

Mr. Clark is, of course, the Progressive Conservative who defeated Pierre Trudeau in 1979 and one of Canada's longest serving and most successful foreign ministers (1984–91) – a period of his life, about which he once confessed, he had learned more than at any other time. Under Mr. Mulroney, he was also minister responsible for constitutional affairs. Re-elected in Calgary in 2000, he left politics in 2004.

Less well known are his post-politics activities. Over the past decade, few Canadians have had such broad and varied international experience. He has led election observation missions, usually in countries with dark and dodgy electoral histories. He has been involved in pioneering overseas business. As vice-chair of the Global Leadership Foundation (a group composed largely of former heads of government and former foreign ministers), Joe Clark has been engaged in mediation and mediation advisory work. In several ways, but much less visibly, he occupies a niche as a highly respected international activist similar to that of former President Jimmy Carter. Appropriately, he is a member of Jimmy Carter's "Friends of the Inter-American Democratic Charter", a democracy monitoring and advocacy group for Latin America and the Caribbean. His work with these and other organizations keep him abreast of the shifting dynamics of the international landscape.

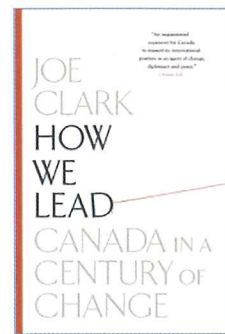
Joe Clark's book would have been more fun if it had been written as a memoir. He has a fund of fascinating and often hilarious anecdotes – only one of which is on display in this volume. However, he has chosen, in his words, to write "a reflection and a prescription of who we Canadians are and have been, and an invitation to envisage what we might become...". The result is an exceptionally well informed and unusual work of positive advocacy.

As co-architect of many of Canada's international achievements including the dramatic rescue of US diplomats from Iran and, with Mr. Mulroney, practical diplomacy in war-torn Central America, East-West negotiations that helped build foundations for the reunification of Germany, and the Commonwealth pressure that facilitated the non-violent collapse of apartheid in South Africa, Clark understands better than most the mechanics of international success and failure. He also recognizes that central to our credibility in many parts of the world is the Canadian model of inter-ethnic civility. That may be obvious. Less obvious but equally important is his identification

of the new elements that have transformed the old international equation: the communications revolution, the non-state actors such as the Gates Foundation, Transparency

International, Amnesty, Greenpeace and other NGOs that wield more influence and often do more good than most sovereign countries. He points up the remarkable role of smaller players like Rotary International.

This is an optimistic book. It achieves a difficult balance between passion without hyperbole and practicality without cynicism. Like Dr. Paul Farmer, the remarkable physician who committed his human and medical skills to Haiti, he believes that the world can be made, of course not perfect, but better – and that this takes energy, dedication, discipline, common sense and optimism. Optimism is the product of the author's vision of who we are and why we are who we are. He explains how "foreign policy can help us understand and define who we are as a country – not simply because that is our team in the field, wearing Canadian colours, but, more fundamentally, because the things we do in the world reflect and affirm who we are at home. Traditionally, we Canadians have become citizens of an understated country, proud enough of our accomplishments, but quiet about them.... When we describe Canada's qualities or identity, we tie ourselves in "nots" – we are not Americans, not British, not French, not aggressive, not a superpower, not a problem. Most of the world takes a far more positive view of Canada – they see us as a complex and successful society that respects and celebrates diversity, a developed country still trusted in the developing world, a strong economy rich in human and physical resources, a free society, an innovative and accomplished population.... Clearly Canada is not the only country with some of these assets, but our combination of



capacity and reputation sets us apart from most other nations.

The reasonableness of his case is made more compelling for the reader by the author's admission of his own past mistakes and the points he awards to Stephen Harper for getting a few things right. However, Mr. Clark does make clear that Canadian stature and the perceptions set out above have been eroded by Mr. Harper and that not much reinvigoration is possible until the narrowness, the ideological tangents, the inwardness, the pontification and the "almost adolescent tone" of the present government's policies are replaced. Working with a country that stood among the first rank of middle nations, respected for the agility, common sense and consensus building skills of its world view, Clark shares with many Canadians the discomfort that we have slipped off the podium.

Clark joins a chorus of other commentators including two former Clerks of the Privy Council – Mel Cappe and Alex Himmelfarb, the latter complaining that the government's distrust of the public service leads to "layers of costly and

stifling control and to a culture of fear". Since the fiasco at the United Nations Security Council, probably nothing speaks more vividly about the condition of our foreign policy than the decline of our influence with our North American partners. It took eight months for President Obama to replace his ambassador in Ottawa. The Mexican ambassador speaks openly about the unsatisfactory state of the bilateral relationship. Referring to the Middle East Jeffrey Simpson strikes a mournful note in the *Globe and Mail* (February 22): "Harper has so marginalized Canada (in a region where it seldom had much influence to begin with) and distanced itself from traditional Western allies that nobody notices or cares any more about what it says."

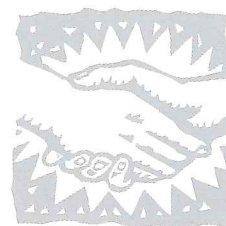
There is another fairly recent change in our political culture that casts a shadow over the Clark vision. The space that divides the two parties of the centre-left from the party of the right is unusually and alarmingly large for a country that for many years prided itself that all of the main parties shared overlapping core values. Formerly an inestimable asset for

the exercise of foreign policy, indications that this consensus has frayed pose a major handicap.

Some have criticized the book as being an exercise in nostalgia. But that view is an abdication of vision and surely it is more than nostalgia to look forward to at time when the term "bipartisan" can rejoin our diplomatic lexicon. Mr. Clark has not written a wistful book. He has written a wake-up call. ☺

John Graham is a retired Foreign Service Officer and member of the Editorial Board.

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NOT YOUR ORDINARY TOMATO!

by Stuart Hughes

One of the great things about Canada is its bilingual character. That's not only because having a second language is another window on the world, but it also allows for fairly odd and funny moments – almost always inadvertent – that we otherwise would miss. A bilingual product of the Lycée (at least for a time), I have a tendency to mix and match parts of the languages, or perhaps more accurately, mix and mash. Back at the Embassy after a great weekend, and speaking in English, I asked a colleague if he had “passed” a good weekend? Thinking himself something of a wit he, of course, replied: “It was a gas”. Ho ho ho.

“Bilingual” jokes have an honoured place here. Apparently Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, whose French was truly notorious, once defended himself with all mock gravitas, jowls swinging and jiggling (as only his could), and announced that he spoke perfectly good French, “...there isn't an English-speaking Canadian who doesn't understand me when I use it!” They work both ways. My brother certainly understood the drift of the Dean of the University of Ottawa Medical School when he first addressed the new students some years ago: “You arrive full of rough hedges, but you will leave smooth as ball-bearing!” Unmistakable translation: if you mean to graduate, fasten your seat belts!

One of my favourite “bilingualisms” was thanks to a good friend who enjoyed a petit chateau an hour or so north of New York. He wanted us to go to the garden to collect fresh veggies for a salad...quintessentially bourgeois from somewhere near the Loire, and obviously thinking in French – voulant des tomates bien rouges – he asked us very seriously to only pick “well-read tomatoes”. I am not sure he expected guffaws all round, but we

made quite a show of checking the literacy of our bright red friends.

My very favourite “mash” of languages goes even farther back to when I served as a “placier” (or huis-sier for continental types) at the National Arts Centre. My chum and I were barely 19 (the only two Anglophones among the placiers). Our supervisor might have been on the far side of 20, fresh from somewhere in northern Ontario like Smooth Rock Falls – not exactly a hotbed of Shakespearian studies. We were all thoroughly obnoxious, though as 19-year-olds we claimed first prize. An enormously nice guy, his name was Claude Paul – perfectly good name, but which we always pronounced “clodpole”, mostly because he had no idea how awful we really were.

Well, one evening a very elegant woman drifted by the Studio, the kind who somehow glides across the floor. He looked at her with obvious longing, turned to us and said in all seriousness: “Aaaah, nature calls”. Of course – to his horror – we exploded into laughter...Perhaps to our collective good fortune she had entered the Studio oblivious of just what kind of compliment she had been paid. As Canadians we should always admire Shakespeare and Molière, but meanwhile a few of us will have some fun with our great cultural patrimoine and maybe make some fun of ourselves into the bargain – et pourquoi pas? ☺

*Stuart Hughes is a retired Foreign Service Officer and Editor of **bout de papier**. (Have a favourite vignette? Send it!)*



“MR. AMBASSADOR, CAN YOU EXPLAIN
WHAT YOU MEAN BY A PRINCIPLED FOREIGN POLICY?”

Cartoon by John W. Graham

An End to Diplomacy

Tokyo 1941-42

While their colleagues in northwestern Europe had fled their missions ahead of the advancing forces of Nazi Germany, often in harrowing and difficult circumstances and with little opportunity to prepare for their departure, the experience of the Canadian Legation and other Allied missions in Japan was quite different. The Japanese attacks on Pearl Harbor, Hong Kong and Singapore had prompted nearly immediate declarations of war by Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and other Allies with a diplomatic presence in Tokyo. As the account below by the Canadian *Chargé d'Affaires*, D'Arcy McGreer, indicates, the internment of enemy diplomats in Japan was a more orderly and less dangerous process, though there was still no doubt that the diplomatic function of these foreign representatives had come to an end and they were certainly kept in the dark about what was happening in the outside world. McGreer's account jibes well with that of the American Ambassador's private secretary, Robert Fearey, in his memoirs. As those same recollections stress, however, the experience of foreign journalists, who were kept in solitary confinement and tortured as presumed espionage agents, was very different.

This document may be found at Library and Archives Canada in the records of the Department of External Affairs (RG25), Volume 2932, file 2864-40. There is a brief account of this episode and the experience of Canadian representatives in Europe in John Hilliker, Canada's *Department of External Affairs, Volume I, The Early Years, 1909-1946* (Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1990), 226-8, 251-2.

- Hector Mackenzie

[Edgar D'Arcy McGreer, *Chargé d'Affaires*, Canadian Legation, Tokyo, 1939-42]

Report on Treatment of Legation Staff in Tokyo and Allied Matters Covering the Period December 8th, 1941 - June 17th, 1942. [20 August 1942]

1. On December 8th I awakened at 7.30 and learned that the news of the outbreak of war between Japan and the Allies had been broadcast early in the morning over Japanese net-works. At 10.15 a.m. Mr. Koichiro Asakai, Chief of the Fifth Section of the Foreign Office (the Section dealing with Research and Enquiry) arrived, accompanied by twelve plain-clothes men. I received him in my office and he handed me a copy of the declaration of war, after which he proceeded to explain our future status, which was to be as follows: -
 1. We were no longer a diplomatic mission.
 2. All members of the staff must move in immediately to the Legation.
 3. The gates of the Legation compound must be closed and nobody permitted to leave without authorization.
 4. All short wave radios were to be turned in. The radios were immediately taken and the premises thoroughly searched (with my permission) by the persons accompanying Mr. Asakai.
2. Telephone wires were cut immediately and direct communication established with the Foreign Office. A room was set aside in the Chancery for the gendarmerie and the Foreign Office Liaison Officer, Mr. M. Yochizawa, who looked after us during the whole period of our incarceration. He was most helpful and considerate until about the beginning of May, when his attitude towards us changed, but not without cause.
3. For the first week or so the police patrolled not only the two outside entrances of the compound but also inside the walls as well, but later this control was stopped and for the last four months there were no police on regular patrol duty in the Legation Compound.
4. **Protecting Powers.** Within the fortnight proceeding the declaration of war, I had called on Mr. Villa, the *Chargé d'Affaires* for the Argentine Republic and had given him in addition to information in writing, a complete picture orally, covering Canadian interests in Japan. Our relations with Mr. Villa were extremely friendly but with the very small staff at his disposal and with little

realization of what the protection of so many powers involved, he did not have the opportunity of visiting us as often as we would have wished. For example, during the month of March he was only able to come twice to see us. He was very much overworked, his health was not of the best, so that it did not come as a surprise to us when on May 14th our interests were taken over by the Swiss Legation. Thereafter, until our departure from Japan on June 17th, Mr. Gorgé [Swiss Minister to Japan] and his staff did everything in their power to help us.

5. With regard to food supplies and material comforts, the Liaison Officer helped out considerably, being able to procure for us many various things which were not only unavailable to the average Japanese but unprocureable to diplomatic colleagues as well. A large order of groceries placed by Mr. Stewart some months before the outbreak of war which arrived by the "Hikawa Maru", was of great help in making our food supplies adequate up to the time of our departure from Japan.
6. As the heating plant of the legation residence is run by oil and as we were only able to obtain a limited supply, the building was not heated throughout the winter, with the exception of Christmas Day. Repeated requests for a liberal fuel supply were stalled off, and although we had supplies occasionally, we preferred to use them for heating water for baths twice a week, rather than use them for heating purposes. The coal obtainable was of a most inferior quality, and the heating by fireplaces of rooms with very high ceiling would have been defective even with good coal.
7. **Recreations and Diversions.** Four motion pictures were shown by the Foreign Office at the Legation. Ironically enough the first shown was "Waikaki Wedding" on January 23rd. We were allowed out for occasional walks, short visits to the doctor and dentist, and I was permitted to recontinue my weekly visits to St. Luke's Hospital for weekly treatment but in all cases every member of the staff when going out was accompanied by a gendarme. We were permitted to play golf once and once only, the idea being no doubt to say that we had been permitted to play golf during our stay in Japan. In a similar situation the United States Ambassador [Joseph Grew] declined to play [according to the account of Robert Fearey, Grew's private secretary, the British Ambassador likewise declined the invitation to play golf out of a similar concern about how the Japanese would publicize the outing].
8. News of world events was furnished by the Foreign Office controlled newspaper, the "Japan Advertiser" and by what we might pick up occasionally through the Liaison Officer and the domestic staff. This was very meagre and biased and consequently our impressions of conditions in Japan during the period are unlikely to prove of much value. Complete isolation from other diplomatic missions continued up to the last and my

requests to see Sir Robert Craigie [British Ambassador to Japan, 1937-41] and other diplomatic colleagues to say good-bye before our departure were not granted. We are allowed, however, to write letters in the next few months to friends through the Swiss representatives.

9. **Legation Property.** When I learned that the Swiss Legation was looking for office and residential accommodation, I suggested through Mr. Villa that our office and residence be taken over by Mr. Gorgé, but this arrangement did not materialize. Mr. Gorgé subsequently endeavoured to use our office for his Chancery but the approval of the Foreign Office was not forthcoming. The best arrangement I could make before leaving and there was still doubt about it, was that Mr. Jacques Frey, one of the Swiss secretaries should live in the residence to supervise and check up on the three servants whom I had instructed to continue to reside in the residence, in order to keep the carpets, furniture and other property in good condition. Of the Legation property I have with me the Legation silver and an oil painting. The remaining property has been classified, inventories made and the protocol of transfer signed and delivered to Mr. Gorgé on June 16th.
10. **Disposal of some Legation property.** In view of possible destruction by air raids and general deterioration through the process of time of Government property, I endeavoured to dispose of all our typewriters before leaving but only one (a 20 inch Remington) was disposed of, the price being Yen 650. I likewise disposed of the Legation piano for the same reason, receiving Yen 5,000, which was Yen 500 above the official fixed price.
10. [sic] **Legation Finances.** As far back as July I deemed it advisable to have on hand an emergency fund and personally borrowed Yen 20,000 to meet any contingency. This, with other funds available from the disposal of property and belongings of various members of staff, permitted us not only to finance ourselves but to leave behind with the Swiss Legation an appreciable amount in yen for the benefit of Canadian interests in Japan. Details of our financial transactions are contained in a separate financial report which is herewith appended.
11. **Conclusions.** Once we had accepted the fact that we were to be isolated and that we were no longer considered by the Japanese to be a diplomatic mission, it can be honestly said that our treatment was most considerate and that apart from the usual delays in getting things done in Japan, there was no real complaint to register against the Japanese authorities. We were shown every consideration and in this connection it may be of interest to note that on Christmas Eve, a large turkey, amply sufficient for seven people, was sent to Mrs. McGreer by the wife of the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs. ☺

The Case of the Marco Polo passport

A back room puzzle for Shamus Dikk, by A Aalto

The short, slight man in the white suit gave a small smile and pulled a flat gold bar, maybe eight inches long, from its velvet bag. Raoul had introduced him as Jo, a friend from the Philippines. The bar wasn't his, he admitted. It was apparently Kublai Khan's. "Just a copy," he said slyly. "These were the first diplomatic passports, you know. Starting with Genghis, the Khans gave one to each of his traveling officials and got most upset if they were mistreated. It was the beginning of diplomatic immunity."

"What does it say here?" Dash asked. Jo replied, "I'm told that a rough translation would go something like, 'The bearer is under the protection of the Grand Khan. Mess with him and you will be very sorry. Although not for very long.' Even some foreigners got them, like, ah, Marco Polo..." His smile widened.

This conversation was happening in San Francisco, where I was working a case involving some so-called Watusi derivatives for a client back home. What he hoped to derive, other than a slipped disc, was unclear, but it was his dollar. Since I was in town, I called some old friends. Dash lived here, while Ray, Ross and Raoul agreed to come up from LA. Jo had just arrived in San Francisco himself.

The streetlights and the moon reflected from the wet pavement, but a fog was gathering at the corners of the streets, mixing with the shadows in the alleyways. The gang never seems to meet by day, and the saloon where we gather, I can never find at other times. But the lights were low, the scotch was good and the laughter was friendly as we swapped stories, some of them even maybe true. Ray was going strong that night on crooks in the oil industry, I recall, and Dash always had something fun to recount from his days with the Pinks. But it was Jo who took the prize.

"Oh yes, the passport the Khan gave Marco still exists, usually locked behind bullet-proof glass in a museum. I've seen it," he said. Dash asked, "How did you run across it?" Jo took a sip of his wine and said, "I was in — a country I will not name, but somewhere along the Silk Road. The Marco Polo passport was the centrepiece of an exhibit on the old trade route. Like you, Mr. Dikk, I was in town wrapping up an unrelated case, and stopped in out of idle curiosity. I had time to spend before my train left for Shanghai."

He pulled out and lit a twisted black cigar. It smelled like someone had set the tar sands on fire. "When I got to the National Museum, people were running everywhere. I had just missed the opening, you see, and something had happened. They had taken the golden passport out of its display case as part of the official ceremony, and then it had been passed around the head table. Eventually, it was left just lying there. I would not have recommended such casual procedures, but then I was not consulted."

"As the dinner broke up, the curator from the donating museum went to collect the passport, only to find that it had been swapped for a very good copy." "How could he tell?" asked Ross, sipping the paint stripper he insists on. Jo replied, "Unlike any of the Khans' other surviving passports, it has an inscription scratched on the back, which could only have been added in medieval Italy. This inscription has never been photographed, and it was missing from the copy."

"The curator raised the alarm immediately, but it was too late. He had kept the eye of a hawk on the table and, although he missed the switch, he was sure no-one but the five people seated there had handled it. And he knew the real one had been there, because he brought it in himself. I trusted him on that, and it turned out I was right."

"Like everyone else, the people at the head table had headed off, and whoever made the switch would have all the time they needed to hide the passport. And they were too important just to haul in and put though what I believe you call the wringer."

"I turned to leave, but I was stopped by the Director of — I suppose it would be the equivalent of your FBI. He was a good friend, and the client whose private case I had just closed. He asked me to stay and help him. As an outsider, I could ask questions and go places his people could not, especially given the status of the suspects. I agreed."

"While his officers focused on the hotel and asked a few polite questions of the VIPs, I tried to find out where the criminal could have obtained the copy — not impossible, but not exactly available on the street either. The question was soon answered for me. A police station in one of the richer parts of the city reported that a few days before, it had been called by a woman to say that her husband, a Pakistani immigrant, had been murdered in his antiques

shop while she was in their apartment upstairs. He had gone down to open up late for a customer, who was coming to pick something up."

He went on. "She heard them argue and crept down the stairs to see what was happening. She forgot her glasses, so she could not see the customer clearly, but she could tell that he was a tall man with black hair, and that he was speaking Urdu with her husband. Just as she got there, the fight turned violent. The man pulled a gun, shot the shopkeeper three times in the face, snatched something from the counter and dashed out. She ran to her husband but he was probably dead before he hit the floor."

"We showed her a picture of the passport and she said it had arrived in the store from a dealer in Singapore just days earlier. We searched the place, but nothing like it was found."

"Does the description of the killer match any of the VIP suspects?" Ray drawled. Jo took a picture from an inside pocket. "Here they are, together at the opening. All smiling, all scheming." It was not a good picture, seriously out of focus, but you could make out the basics. There was a woman and at least three men; the figure in the second seat could have been either.

Jo said, "The black-haired man in the middle seat is the President. In addition to his native language, he speaks Estonian and maybe some other languages. The man at the end here speaks only Swahili as a second language and wasn't in the country when the killing happened."

Ross said, "What about this guy at the other end of the row, the one with long black hair and a short beard." "That gentleman is the Ambassador of the country that loaned the passport. He's also a collector of Asian antiques. Now, the Speaker here," Jo went on, pointing to a figure three seats away from the Ambassador, "was certainly in the country, and she's tall and she speaks Urdu."

He pointed at another figure and said "This one with the white hair was around as well." I jumped in to say, "But does anyone else speak Urdu? That would be the hardest thing to fake." Jo replied, "Yes, the PM speaks Urdu, now that I think of it — he's the tall man sitting next to the short man who is next to the Speaker." "And the man in the fifth chair?" asked Ray. "That's the Head of the Museum, a crusader to get the country's historical and archaeological antiquities back from abroad. Mm? Yes,

Seat	1	2	3	4	5
Person					
Foreign Language(s)					
Height					
Gender					
Hair colour					
In country?					

the way the light hits his head makes it hard to tell, but his hair is black.”

“They all hate each other, so there’s no possibility of collaboration. In particular the President, the PM and the Speaker would all kill – my apologies – to get their hands on such a fabulous object. Maybe to sell it on the black art market (the PM is said to be dangerously low on funds to pay the militia that keeps him in power). Or to use it in some way to advance their political careers – perhaps by staging a miraculous “recovery” to polish up their credentials.” He fell silent.

Dash never could handle silence. “So what happened? Did you figure it out?” Jo took a sip of wine and nodded. “Yes I did. They could all have done it, we had no witnesses to the theft, and I did not underestimate their nerve. So I ran a bluff. The Director called a press conference, where the visiting curator announced that the passport handed around the head table had itself been a copy, a better copy than the one used by the killer. Afraid that something would happen to the original, he had made the substitution as he brought it into the room. At the Director’s request, he had not revealed this before, since the police had hoped the thief would be caught red-handed with the fake. He was now convinced, however, that the thief would never be found, and so he was invoking the security clause in the inter-museum contract and taking the real passport home with him the next day. Waving a golden tablet at the assembled journalists, he swore that it would not leave his possession until it was back in his museum. He was really very convincing, I have to say.”

Then we ringed the curator’s hotel room with hidden policemen and waited. I was sure that, having killed once on his way to getting the passport, the thief would not let it slip out of his hands. And about two

o’clock in the morning the thief used a pass-key to get into the room and put a gun to the curator’s temple as he lay in bed. Fortunately, I was under that bed. I grabbed the intruder’s ankles and pulled hard. He hit the floor harder and was in handcuffs before he even woke up. A search of his home turned up the real passport.”

The rest of us around the table gave him a round of applause. I thought a minute and said to him, “That was good thinking, Jo. But we all have our own ways of working a case. I’ll bet I could figure out who it was just from your picture and what you told us about it.” Raoul’s whiskey stopped halfway to his mouth and he said, “You could, Shamus? Just how would you do that?”

I asked the barkeep for some paper and a pencil. When they came, I drew a grid and explained. “We have a row of five people. We have five clues to the killer – height, hair colour and gender, plus knowledge of Urdu and the question of whether they were in town when the murder took place. We use the information you gave us to fill in as much of the grid as possible and see where that leaves us.”

It didn’t take long. I named the killer. Jo gave me a short round of applause in return, which I appreciated, and one of his cigars, which I pretended to.

Nothing was going to top that story, so we got ready to head off into the night. I turned to Jo for one last question. “What was that mysterious inscription on the back of the passport, anyway?” He coughed gently into his fist. “Actually, it reads, ‘Rustichello says – for a good time, see Lucretia B at the Doge and Duck Tavern’. In medieval Latin, of course.” “You’re kidding, right?” I insisted. “Not so, Mr. Dikk.”

He pulled out the velvet bag and extracted the passport. Reaching for the glass that held Ray’s stripper, he poured

the last of it over the blank back. After a few second, he used his pocket handkerchief to rub off the golden paint and reveal a patch of faint but clear letters. He said, “The museum here in San Francisco thought it would be less likely to be stolen again if I brought it back anonymously, while the curator returned at the same time with much fanfare.”

Our jaws dropped. Dash gulped, “So this is really Marco Polo’s passport?” Jo laid his head on one side and said, “Perhaps. Or perhaps it is the curator’s second, better copy, the one he waved around at the press conference. Or maybe neither of us knows, so we will both work hard to protect the one we hold.” He picked up his panama from the table and placed it neatly on his slicked-back hair. “Remember, boys. Don’t mess with the Khan.”

Can you duplicate Shamus’ feat and identify the thief/murderer? **bout de papier** will decide the winner by drawing from a hat (panama if possible) containing all correct entries received by March 1. The winner will receive a book autographed by A Aalto. Not necessary to win, but can you guess Jo’s last name? ③

Free-lance prestidigitator A Aalto is having a wonderful time close to his ancestral home and had to be dragged off a yak to complete this puzzle. It is dedicated to Raoul Whitfield, for reasons which will be clear to anyone who has read certain of his short detective stories (which come highly recommended for period and regional colour). It is also dedicated to Genghis Khan, benefactor to our profession – he really did invent the diplomatic passport and exacted bloody retribution when his Ambassadors were offed. And thanks to Mrs. Aalto for encouragement and precision.

The Affair of the Fair Trade Gazebo – A two-line struggle by A Aalto

Answers to Vol. 28, No. 2

Winner: JULIA DEW-WATT, OTTAWA ONTARIO

All five of the potential activators were using pseudonyms, but only one of them was a “double” pseudonym – LAUREN BACALL – since that wasn’t the actress’ real name – which was Betty Joan Perske.

The keyword for the Playfair cipher was FAIR TRADE GAZEBO, which collapses to FAIRTDEGZBO. Using that to decipher the message, you get the plain text “CRY HAVOC AND LET SLIP THE DOGS OF WA”. HAVOC is therefore the activation code and the carriers were the dogs from the labs in Wa. The full 19th century Playfair cipher is somewhat more complicated; details on Wikipedia and elsewhere if you are interested to know.

The word at the bottom of the alpha-Sudoku is PSEUDONYM. The full block is below:

D	E	O	S	N	M	Y	U	P
U	M	N	E	Y	P	D	O	S
Y	P	S	O	U	D	E	M	N
E	Y	D	M	S	N	U	P	O
M	N	U	P	O	Y	S	D	E
S	O	P	D	E	U	M	N	Y
O	U	Y	N	M	S	P	E	D
N	D	M	Y	P	E	O	S	U
P	S	E	U	D	O	N	Y	M

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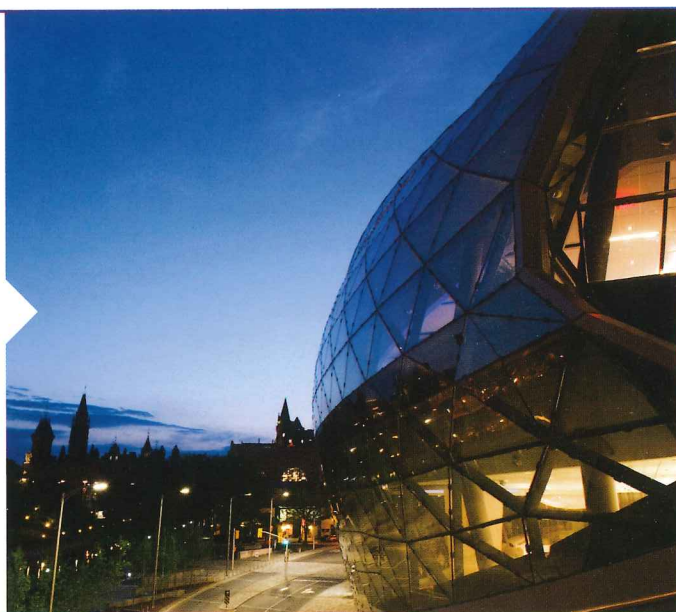
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