

FORWARD

The Bissell-Heyd Professorship of Canadian-American Studies was established by, and is supported through, the generosity of the Associates of the University of Toronto in the United States. The Professorship honours Dr. Claude Bissell, President of the University of Toronto from 1958 to 1971. Following his presidency at Toronto, Dr. Bissell took a position at Harvard University where he served as an informal educational ambassador from Canada to the United States. To honour his significant contribution to North American education, the Professorship in his name brings to the University of Toronto each year a senior American or Canadian scholar with a distinguished record of research and teaching about the United States, Canada, or the relationship between them.

For the 1987-88 academic year, the Bissell-Heyd Professorship was devoted to a program of research, lectures and conferences on the role of Canada, the United States, and their major partners in the annual Summit of the seven leading industrial democracies and the European Community. The Summit, which was held in Toronto from June 19-21, 1988, reveals much about the importance of the wider world to Canada and the United States, and about the need for the two North American powers to co-operate, not only on their continent, but also within the western and world communities as a whole. Moreover the occasion of the Toronto Summit provided a unique opportunity to educate Canadians about the world around them, and the world about Canada.

Given the singular importance of the Summit, the University of Toronto, through its 1987-88 Bissell-Heyd Program, took as its mandate the task of educating Canadians and the citizens of their Summit partners about the institutions, issues, and members of the Seven Power Summit. In this task it was pleased to have the co-operation of the York University Centre for International and Strategic Studies, the support of governments from the Summit countries, and the advice of leading individuals in the business and media communities. The Centre for International Studies also benefited from its partnership with other research centres within the University of Toronto, notably the Joint Centre on Asia-Pacific Studies, with whose co-operation this current study is produced.

In January of 1988 the University of Toronto was honoured to join with the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto and the City of Toronto in an expanded program of Summit-related activities. The resulting "Municipal Program on the 1988 Toronto Summit", co-sponsored by the Bissell-Heyd Program and the Municipality and City, represented an innovative venture in University-Municipal Government co-operation in public education. We gratefully acknowledge the leadership of Chairman Dennis Flynn, Mayor Art Eggleton, and their respective Councils, in this important initiative.

As a part of the 1987-88 Bissell-Heyd Program, the Centre for International Studies organized a Research Group to examine in detail the institutions, issues, members, and agenda of the Summit. As part of its activity, the Research Group prepared a series of country studies to explore the involvement of each member in the Summit over the institution's fourteen year history.

This is the sixth such study. As with the others, it represents an initial effort to describe the historical record and overall pattern of a particular country's involvement in the Summit, on the basis of secondary literature, and such readily available primary material as government documents, media reports, and elite interviews. Although originally produced for the internal use of the Centre for International Studies Research Group, these studies are now being made available to a broader audience as a stimulus to public education and further research.

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