

Trudeau's Foreign Policy and Reign

- 1968, he was elected PM, and he was different from everyone who came prior (Liberal)
 - was actually liked by young people
 - was a celebrity – partied with the Rolling Stones, and experienced 'Trudeaumania' (p. 177)
 - dated celebrities (most famous: Barbara Streisand)
 - fingered Salmon Arm ("the Trudeau salute")
- as a PM he was arguably our best
- his foreign policy was to make Canada different than the US
 - recognized Communist China and Cuba
 - was very frank with the US presidents – said what was on his mind and did not pull any punches
 - created Petro-Canada and FIRA (Foreign Investment Review Agency)
- also did not want to anger the US
- his nuclear policy changed Canada forever
 - nuclear missiles were removed from Canada's NATO forces in Europe
 - dismantled all Bomarc missile sites in Canada
 - cut the defense budget by half – angered many Canadians, but set the tone for a peaceful Canada
- under his rule, Canada became known as a 'Middle Power' – where we are today (speech on pg. 150)

Quebec Separatism – Je Me Souviens...

- this feeling of alienation has always been around in French-speaking Canada
 - o begins with the Seven Years' War when Quebec was put down by the English for the last time
 - o since then, French Canadiens were ruled by English
 - 1940s, Duplessis introduced a new Quebec flag – its new symbol was the fleur-de-lis
 - with the growth of Fr-CDN nationalism from the two world wars (opposition to conscription, etc.) Quebec began to be stronger than it ever was
 - Duplessis kept out Eng-CDNs as much as possible, and alas, the thoughts of separatism were born
 - Quebec always felt slighted by federal politics
 - if 1/3 of Canada was French speaking, why did the Quebecois have a much slighter voice?
 - some French speakers decided that rebellion was the only way to achieve freedom after 200 years...
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The FLQ Crisis

- FLQ = Front de liberation du Quebec
- was a terrorist organization that fought from Quebec
- began in the mid 60s
 - o used firebombs and mailbombs to attack English symbols in Quebec

- many French speakers did not agree with these sorts of tactics (injuring mailmen and train personnel)
- was a sign of great discontent

- in 1969, Trudeau tried to help – the Bi and Bi Commission

- sought to protect language and culture in Quebec
- made Canada officially a bi-lingual country
- dual languages on goods in Canada etc.

- this was not good enough for some

- the FLQ stepped up the ante in 1970

- members of the FLQ kidnapped a British diplomat, James Cross, from his Montreal home

- they demanded the release of FLQ members in return

- Trudeau said “Heck no”

- five days later, the FLQ kidnapped another

- Quebec’s labour minister, Pierre Laporte (one of their own...)

- Trudeau had his finest hour here

- he invoked the War Measures Act (gov’t has all the power it needs to root out the FLQ)

- in response to people’s questions of him abusing his power in Quebec, he responded with “Just watch me”
- (he’s the man!)

- federal troops stormed into Montreal and Quebec City and took control
 - anyone suspected of being affiliated with the FLQ was rounded up and arrested
 - however, one day later, the body of Laporte was found in the trunk of a car – strangled
 - this infuriated English Canada and even most parts of French Canada
 - o the FLQ went too far
 - Trudeau turned a possible ‘Northern Ireland in Canada’ into a controllable situation
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Modern Separatism

- these feelings of alienation never went away ☹
- 1980 – Quebec held a referendum, and voted to stay in Canada (only a 60-40 margin of victory)
- 1995 – latest referendum (I was in grade 10 at the time)
 - o 49.4% voted to separate
 - o 50.6% voted to stay
 - that was the closest that Canada has ever come to being torn apart by separatist beliefs

Question? – Are these feelings still around? Are there simple solutions to this, or is it simply too much water ‘under the bridge’?

Mulroney's Foreign Policy and Reign

- he is arguably the most hated PM Canada ever had
- took over in 1984 (Conservative) and was the opposite of Trudeau
- at first, he seemed to be a good thing for Canada
 - o took advantage of economic growth
 - o decided to create very close ties to the USA
- 1985, when the US wanted to create a "Star Wars Defense System" around North America, he supported this
- we never did officially take part, but Mulroney left the door open for private people to bid on contracts
- he announced that Canada was "open for business"
 - o he passed the Free Trade Agreement with the USA
 - was against FIRA
 - opened our borders to USA and Mexico to complete free trade
 - very controversial – sure, it created jobs, but at the same time, we lost autonomy
 - flooded the CDN economy with cheaply-made foreign goods
- on a side note, Mulroney also was the PM who passed GST – yeah, you can blame him, it's okay

NAFTA