So to the "Fourth World"...

. . . I will try to develop the idea here.

The first, second, and third worlds, so-called, are getting to be less and less relevant to the needs or wishes of the people that reside within them.

We need a fourth world, one formed from and responsive to the free peoples of the earth — all of those groups who respond on ethnic, racial, or other grounds to some feeling of self identity and community and who think of themselves as a *people* or a *nation*. But the nation states as they now exist need to fade away, except as they may be convenient to various purposes that the people may decide (such as keeping the mail moving, or other communication routes open).

The fourth world need be an ecologically oriented world, one attuned to adjusting human life and development to the needs of the total life community, one responsive to man-in-nature as contrasted with man-against-nature. Development, in an economic sense, will proceed where needed, but only in tune with the ecological principles that will help to guarantee its success and survival over the long run, and also in tune with the socially defined needs and wishes of the people to be affected by the process.

It is essential that people drop out of the technological society, form independent communities with their own ways of living. Such a network of communities, largely self supporting and developing a new man-land relationship may well provide the only hope of finding our way out of the technological trap we are in. If they can be expanded world-wide they may provide that *saving remnant* that can eventually lead people back to sanity.

I am in favor of pushing the concept of *outlaw areas*, areas set aside for the practice of particular ways of life and immune from either interference or help from the dominant society outside — areas for nomads, for hunter-gatherers, for subsistence farmers, for village craft and peasant farming ways of life. People would be free to join — leaving their connections to technological society behind, or free to leave, but once in they would have to abide by the rules of the societies that lived in these areas.

Raymond Dasmann



DRAWING: *Vision — Mountain Man II*, by Martin Carey