

instance, will be no less durable if two of its members sign this treaty. We shall continue to be aware that the various regions of the world are interdependent in security matters. We hope that elsewhere in the world peace may be strengthened by agreements similar to the North Atlantic Treaty, the Treaty of Rio de Janeiro, or by associations such as the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The Canadian people still hope that the problems of post-war settlement which have prevented the United Nations becoming what it was originally intended, may be solved. We hope, moreover, that the United Nations itself will contribute to solving those problems. So far, negotiations either inside or outside the United Nations on the major issues which divide the U.S.S.R. from the rest of the world, have produced little but failure and frustration. No doors are closed, however, and no one has permanently left the conference table. As far as Canada is concerned, no process or negotiation is too onerous and no conference too tedious, that will lead towards settlement. We for our part, are prepared to support every effort in every council, conference, committee, working group, or whatever other agency of negotiation may be suggested, to solve the problems which exist between the Western World and the Soviet Union. More than that, we believe that by these methods the long-term problem of security can best be solved. In the meantime, the North Atlantic Treaty will serve as an instrument which, by strengthening the position of the free democracies, will make it possible for them to use the United Nations with greater confidence and more hope of success.

Mr. Chairman, I have tried to suggest some of the reasons that convince me that the North Atlantic Pact has the breath of life in it. I can sum them up by saying that the treaty is both a consummation and a new departure. It is a consummation in the sense that it results logically and naturally from the closely related background and the common experience of its members. The Western World has already put together a complicated network of interlocking political and economic institutions. We have now the material for a closely knit North Atlantic Community. The North Atlantic Treaty not only protects this accomplishment, but also gives us a framework within which we can fit the pieces together into an ordered whole. It is a new beginning because of its enormous possibilities for good. It will help, I think, to eliminate some of the stupid and dangerous talk of the inevitability of war which is becoming too current in certain quarters at the present time. There is nothing inevitable about war; there is nothing unchangeable about evil. If we of the free world can pursue the firm and constructive policies of resistance to communism that are now in train, refusing to be dazzled by delusions of appeasement or stampeded by the provocative counsels of panicky men, we may emerge from the wastelands of our post-war world into greener fields of human achievement. It is because the North Atlantic Treaty can make an important contribution to this forward move that the people of Canada give it strong and sincere support.

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