

of Germany or the modification of its present boundaries, and by the Three Powers on the other hand, to take appropriate steps against any violation of this assurance.

The fate of these agreements now lies in the hands of the governments and peoples of the Atlantic community. The admission of the German Federal Republic to NATO and the establishment of the new Western European Union depend on ratification by all the countries concerned. However the spirit of amity and understanding which was evidenced at the London and Paris Conferences encourages the belief that these agreements will make possible both a new advance in the development of the Atlantic community and a notable strengthening of the security of free men everywhere. They offer a basis for reconciliation and enduring co-operation with a country against which Canada has fought in two world wars. They also provide a framework that will enable France, Germany and the United Kingdom to work together for the benefit of Europe as a whole, and that will further foster those bonds between the new Europe and North America without which our common heritage cannot successfully be defended.

Statement by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson, at the Nine-Power Conference in London on October 29, following statements by the Chairman, Sir Anthony Eden, and the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Dulles

Your statement, Mr. Chairman, if I may say so, was one of historic importance. If it is thought, as it sometimes is, that the United Kingdom looks across the Channel more intensely in war than in peacetime, that feeling certainly must have been removed by your statement earlier this afternoon. To me it was all the more impressive because I recognize that the source of the power and glory of this island has been its vision across the seas.

The statement of Mr. Dulles was also important not only for the development of European unity, but for that larger Atlantic community development which we are all concerned. Indeed, as I see it, European unity cannot be effectively secured unless the lines not only across the Channel but also across the Atlantic are strong and unbroken. My country has a part to play in this Atlantic aspect of the problem. Therefore, we accept the continuing obligations arising out of our membership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and we are resolved to continue to do our best to discharge them. The disappearance of EDC does not, we think, affect those obligations, because EDC—though we were indeed disappointed in its disappearance—as we saw it, was a means to an end and not an end in itself. We are here to find an alternative method to accomplish the same purpose. That alternative method, that alternative arrangement, must include the association of Germany not only with the defence of Europe and the West, but—and this is, I am sure, equally important—with the development of the Atlantic community; an association to be brought about in such a way that the fears that we have in-