

for us. We, with your gallant Canadian help, had to fight the Battle of the Atlantic against the U-boats—that might not be entirely overlooked I think sometimes—whose attack was ever-growing in strength and skill, and who were about to take their greatest toll along the American seaboard. An almost unbroken series of misfortunes and defeats lay before us until the battle of Alamein was won by your famous Governor General and his brilliant lieutenant, General Montgomery, and the concerted descent upon Northwest Africa by General Eisenhower's Anglo-American Army, until these great events and these great men—I think I may say that without getting at all mixed up with party politics—turned the tide of war once and for all. Until these events occurred, we could not see our way clearly through our many problems.

Your Excellency, Prime Minister: I have many Canadian memories of the war. My friend General Crerar was saying the other day how frightened I was—quite rightly—not for myself, but for my responsibility of the whole Canadian Division coming over together through the U-boats, and how I thought it might be better for them to land at separate ports in France, but he and others said they would like to take the risk. Then, I said: "The Admiralty have hardened their hearts; we will make the best arrangements in human power." Not a man was lost. All landed safely in England. And, although the Canadian Army was very sulky and upset by being kept so long in England, we must remember the Canadian Army Group was the only really formidable force we had in our country during the period when Hitler might easily have decided to throw his effort into an invasion.

Then, afterwards, I had the honour to see your troops in Italy when I visited the Field Marshal — I beg your pardon, His Excellency — there, and also to see them when they were about to cross the Rhine. They have a great record in the war and I am proud to be able to remind you of it tonight and to have been associated with you in some of those historic occasions.

What is the scene which unfolds before us tonight? It is certainly not what we had hoped to find after all our enemies had surrendered unconditionally and the great world instrument of the United Nations had been set up to make sure that the wars were ended. It is certainly not that. Peace does not sit untroubled in her vineyard. The harvests of new and boundless wealth which science stands ready to pour into the hands of all people, and of none perhaps more than the people of Canada, must be used for exertions to ward off from us the dangers and the unimaginable horrors of another world war.

At least this time in visiting you I have no secrets to guard about the future. When I came last time I could not tell what was going to happen, because I could not make it public. This time I do not know. No one can predict with certainty what will happen. All we can see for ourselves are the strange clouds that move and gather on the horizons, sometimes so full of menace, sometimes fading away. There they are. They cast their shadow, as Mr. Truman, the President of the United States, said the other night, they cast their shadow on our life and actions.

But this time at any rate we are all united from the beginning. We all mean to stand by each other. Here in Canada, in the United States, in Britain, in Western Europe, all of us are united to defend the cause of freedom with all our strength and by that strength we hope to preserve unbroken the peace which is our heart's desire.

Your Excellency, I have spoken tonight a good deal about the past. Edmund Burke said: "People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors."