

their French and German neighbours. Canada's service men and women are not only making a substantial contribution to the defence of Europe, they are making Canada known and understood by the people of these two great nations. They are contributing to the growth and development of the Atlantic Community.

In my talks with the leaders of all the NATO countries which I visited, I found a recognition of the need to preserve what we have developed, and to improve and develop the Atlantic Community. Over the past ten years much has been done to weld us together despite every effort of the Soviet Union to break us apart. More remains to be done.

As we enter the second decade in the life of the Atlantic Community its member nations are facing difficult problems, but I am convinced that armed with the determination to stand together and to defend those principles on which our Community is founded, we shall emerge stronger and more united than ever. We shall not reject any reasonable proposal which shows promise of leading to the removal of differences with the Soviet Union, but we will not be persuaded that the cause of peace or of Western civilization will be served by the breaking up of the Atlantic Community.

The builders of NATO builded better than they knew. Its strength, dedication and unity has preserved the peace in the past. The hope of the Free World is that it will do so in the future.

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