

action. This must mean Soviet military disengagement from Asian conflicts. There is complete unanimity among trilateral partners on this issue. Let me add that Canadian foreign policy is now placing a new emphasis on liaison and consultations regarding Asia-Pacific security issues.

It is in the Central American conflict where there are obvious differences in approach by our respective nations. The Canadian view is that Third World conflicts generally have local origins, and that durable solutions must be local too. Canada opposes the further militarization of Central America by any outside power. We think economic conditions are at the root of the conflict, and therefore at the root of its solution.

I hope my comments today have given you some notion of the Canadian approach to major foreign policy issues. Canadians have been working very hard to strengthen international coordination, and a great deal of that work involves cooperating with the countries represented here today. Indeed, for a country with a relatively small population, we have evolved a remarkable number of international ties. In 1987-88 we will play host, in quick succession, to the Commonwealth, Francophone and Economic Summits. All this is part of the basic Canadian strategy: building coalitions of common cause.

Others may feel that they can afford the luxury of unilateralism, of defensive nationalism or regionalism. We cannot. And we are convinced that, in the long run, none of us can.