

Britain had to do, not with the waging of war, but with the creation of post-war international institutions. It was, for example, British and Americans, with assistance from Canadians, who created the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. The same was, I know, true of the international conference on civil aviation at Chicago in 1944 which founded ICAO. It was, I think, true of the formation of UNRRA and FAO. It was most certainly true of the long negotiations on the formation of the North Atlantic Alliance, negotiations which lasted from the early months of 1948 until March of 1949. That alliance is the child of the United States, Britain, and Canada. Our successful crusade for that alliance is a bright page in our history.

Why and how were we able to play such an important role in the decade from 1942 to 1951? It was, I suggest, because of two things. First, a gap had been created in the Western World. Second, we organized ourselves so that we could move into that gap.

In the war years, virtually the whole of Western Europe was in the hands of the enemy. In the immediate post-war years, the European governments were so weakened by war and occupation, so heavily involved in reconstruction, so dependent on the