

In terms of Canada-US relations in the international field, this is an ever present fact of life. Because Canada does not have the same global responsibilities and range of interests, there are times when we find it difficult to stay in concert with the United States. There are many such examples but I will mention just one because it is current and of overriding importance.

The threat of nuclear proliferation is a growing danger to the very survival of mankind. Canada and the United States, as well as many other countries, are as one in recognizing this frightful danger. We are even agreed in theory on what should be done about it and I should emphasize that on many aspects of the problem there are encouraging signs of progress.

Canada is a world leader in the fields of nuclear material supplies and technology. We believe that nuclear energy properly controlled and safeguarded offers one of the best hopes for a resolution of the present global energy crisis. In this, too, our capabilities and our convictions do not depart significantly from those of the United States.

Over recent years, Canada has moved progressively to establish what is today the most stringent nuclear policy on exports of any country in the world, including the United States. But though we have shown leadership in the nuclear field, the effectiveness of our policy will remain limited and even perhaps counter-productive until there is a wider degree of international agreement on technology and safeguards than exists at present.