



CANADA

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## ASPECTS OF CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY

In his first major speech in the House of Commons since his election to Parliament, Mr. Sidney E. Smith, Secretary of State for External Affairs, on November 26 emphasized the Government's support of the United Nations, the Commonwealth, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. He reviewed Canada's participation in the current session of the UN General Assembly, and outlined the Canadian approach to the Colombo Plan.

Mr. Smith underlined the importance which the Government attaches to the maintenance and strengthening of frank and cordial relations with the United States, stating, in part:

"....Above all, it is of paramount importance to international peace that Canada and the United States, unequal as they are with respect to military and economic force but equal in their common respect for the dignity of the individual, should set a continued example to the whole world of how friendly nations can live together.

"May I state as simply as I can how I see the development of our relations with the United States. We must be friends; friendship however, means something more than the absence of enmity. Friendship really means the existence of positive and effective interest on the part of each nation in the welfare of the other."

Mr. Smith devoted the closing part of his address to NATO, with particular reference to the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting to be held December 16-18 in Paris. He said in part:

"In recent weeks...we have been forced to give closer examination to our collective security arrangements by reason of the success of the U.S.S.R. in the launching of the inter-continental ballistic missile and in the launching of two earth satellites. It has been a shock but it has had a salutary effect in terms of the re-appraisal of our common defence.

"We in the democracies are apt to relax until pressure is brought upon us by the course of events; then we jump into action.... In this age of infinite risk we should have some concern about this characteristic tendency to relax in the absence of pressure. That attitude of relaxation when there is no pressure on us may, and in this case probably has, tempted fate. However, we have now been dramatically reminded of the terrible menace of nuclear warfare and as a result all members of NATO recognize they are faced with the necessity of making far-reaching decisions in the military field while, at the same time, having to cope with political problems of exceptional complexity... I wish to say a word about the military and political problems because I think the success of NATO in rising to the occasion will depend largely on how it can merge its military and its political objectives.

"Despite Soviet accusations that NATO is an aggressor and was designed for aggression, the sole military purpose of NATO--this has been declaimed over and over again and we have