

APPENDIX

ADDRESS

of

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

President of the United States of America

to

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC

in the

HOUSE OF COMMONS CHAMBER, OTTAWA

on

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1953

The President was welcomed by the Right Honourable Louis S. St. Laurent, Prime Minister of Canada, and thanked by the Honourable Wishart McL. Robertson, P.C., Speaker of the Senate, and the Honourable L. René Beaudoin, Speaker of the House of Commons.

Right Hon. Louis S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister of Canada): Mr. President, members of the Parliament of Canada, we are greatly honoured by the presence here today of the President of the United States of America. I am sure that I speak not only for those who are seated in this chamber but for all of our fellow Canadians, Mr. President, when I say to you how pleased we are that you have been able to pay another visit to our capital city, this time as the first citizen of your great country.

My words in this chamber do not always meet with unanimous approval, but I know I can say, with absolutely no risk of dissent this time, that we are all most happy that the President is accompanied by his charming wife.

Your visit, sir, marks the third time that the chief of state of the United States has paid a visit to the capital city of Canada. Just ten years ago your great wartime president honoured us by coming to Ottawa after the first of those historic conferences in Quebec. Mr. Roosevelt set a precedent which I hope will continue to be followed in the future. There can surely be no more tangible evidence of the friendly relationship which exists between our two peoples than friendly visits of this kind between representatives of our two nations.

When I had the privilege of being your guest in Washington earlier this year, Mr. President, I found evidence among all those whom I was privileged to meet of a warm and friendly feeling for the people of Canada. That is only one reason why I hope—and all Canadians both in this chamber and outside will share that hope—that you will return to Washington with an increased consciousness of our high regard for the American people and for yourself. We would also like you to know that we are grateful for the leadership your nation is providing in the common effort of free men and women to make our world a safer and better place for future generations.

This leadership given by the United States is moreover untainted by any desire for national self-aggrandizement. By positive and unselfish actions, which are unique in history, the American people have recognized that threats to the safety and well-being of liberty-loving peoples anywhere are threats to all peoples everywhere who believe in the dignity and freedom of the individual. Your nation's contributions to the restoration of war-devastated lands have been generous to an extent unprecedented in international relations. Your example, as a member of the United Nations, of vigorous and immediate resistance to wanton aggression has revived