



CANADA

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
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AN EXAMPLE TO NEIGHBOURS

An address by Prime Minister Diefenbaker to the Governors' Conference, Glacier National Park, Montana, on June 27, 1960.

... The United States and Canada, in unity, fraternity and common dedication, have a message for all mankind. The kinship that exists between our two countries is a vast "seamless net" of interwoven interests based on a common heritage and a common love of freedom, reinforced by the powerful impact of geography and impinging histories. It is well that this is so, for unity of purpose is an imperative necessity not only between our two nations, but among all free nations.

From our beginnings as nations most of this continent has been shared in goodwill and mutual understanding. Only in the long, long ago has either nation seriously disputed the rights of the other. By peaceful settlement of territorial disagreements, and in many other ways, we have shown that two nations, one the most powerful in the world, and the other with a population one-tenth that of its great neighbour, can live side by side in peace and amity, and with full respect for the rights of each other.

This is of world importance today, for the essence of Communist propaganda is that the United States is aggressively minded, and is dominated by aggressive political and military elements. Canadians can do much to interpret the United States to the world. Canada is a member of the Commonwealth which spans all the continents. Canadians can give a conclusive answer, based on fact and experience, to the false interpretation of the ideals and purposes of the United States which has been most effectively propagated throughout the uncommitted world.

Stern Challenges

Our two countries, and indeed all the Western countries, face stern challenges in the 1960's. Those who have the responsibilities of leadership cannot afford to shield their minds from the questions that will have to be answered in the immediate years ahead.