

based on regional co-operation, but the security of any part of the world must, in the present day, be considered as an international objective which can be realized only by the achievement of a strong and stable international legal order.

In working towards this legal order we must recognize the conflict of national interest, however. Even if we leave out of the question major ideological disagreements or conflicts of interest at the level of the few big powers, the differences in outlook, in background, in economic interest and in power among most nations are formidable. They can be overcome only by the unremitting effort of nations dedicated to the ideals of a world community and the rule of law. The problem lies at the heart of bilateral negotiations, of relationships within such bodies as NATO, of debates over collective action in the United Nations.

We have in the relationship between the United States and Canada experience of the problems to be surmounted and also, I am glad to say, ample evidence of the great benefits which flow from effective partnership.

I need hardly remind you of all our interlocking interests in economic, defence and many other matters. The United States is by far our largest export market. It is from the United States that we draw the greatest proportion of external resources and technological information necessary for the rapid development of our economy. At the same time, we provide the greatest single market for United States goods and the largest source of profitable opportunities for American investors. Our governments stand pledged to co-operate in securing the best use on a broad basis of resources vital to both of us.

There is, of course, a very great discrepancy of power between us. With respect to issues affecting material interests, the preponderance is heavily in favour of the United States. The influence exerted on Canada by its neighbour to the south, the degree of interdependence and the occasional disagreement or public controversy over aspects of Canada-United States relations lead some people to claim that Canada is a reluctant satellite of the United States.

I am sure you would reject this claim as emphatically as I do. We are not a satellite of any kind, reluctant or otherwise. We consider Canada to be a willing partner in an association to which it makes a contribution in the common interest commensurate with its resources and its points of view.

Unlike the barren controversy which characterizes some international exchanges, the disagreements which arise in Canadian-American relations are rather part of the bargaining process involved in reaching agreement on some major undertaking. From our discussions, negotiations, debates -- and even disagreements -- have come the most impressive results. Canadians and Americans can jointly be proud of a number of agreements, such as the gigantic Seaway stretching from the Atlantic to the heart of the continent, the immense Columbia River project and the Canada-U.S. Automotive Agreement, which benefits our people on both sides of the border. These were not dictated by an overwhelmingly powerful nation and accepted by a servile one. They were the fruits of painstaking discussion, normal bargaining and mutual respect.