



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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Statement by the Honourable Paul Martin,
Secretary of State for External Affairs,
to the Special Committee on Defence of
the House of Commons on July 25, 1963.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I welcome the opportunity to outline to you the relationship between the defence policy and the foreign policy of the Canadian Government, and the means whereby the necessary co-ordination between the two is sought to be accomplished. The very fact that you have seen fit to invite me to appear before the Committee is an indication of your awareness that the foreign and defence policy of this nation are inseparable. Indeed, in the nuclear age this is true of all states, since their foreign and defence policies have but a single objective -- the preservation of peace.

Mr. Pearson, the present Prime Minister, speaking before the Air Force Veterans' Association in November 1959, aptly described defence as follows:

"...defence now means the exercise of wise and far-sighted diplomacy; reliance, not on national strength alone, but on collective policy and action inside a coalition like NATO; keeping our economies strong and free and healthy; helping those under-developed countries who are now emerging into the modern age and who will largely determine by the way they do it, whether the future on this planet is to be one of conflict or co-operation. It means also defence of the deepest, highest values of our life and civilization, against those forces of disruption and debasement which challenge and threaten them from within..."

"...defence now is the preventing of wars through the solution of international problems by pacific means, the strengthening of free, democratic society and the promotion of co-operation and friendship between all peoples."

Now, Mr. Chairman, that description, with its accent on the preventive nature of defence policy, is a far cry from the role of armed forces in yesteryears. Gone are the days when there was truth in the maxim that armed forces take over when