



Statements and Speeches

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THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA -- DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES, DIFFERENT IMPERATIVES

Remarks by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, at a Dinner for the United States Secretary of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger, Ottawa, October 14, 1975.

Mr. Secretary, Mrs. Kissinger,

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This evening could have been devoted to a working dinner; but I felt it would be more useful to bring you in contact not only with members of the Government and officials, but also with members of the Opposition and citizens from all the regions of Canada. Around this table, Mr. Secretary, we have a cross-section of the Canadian people involved in a variety of ways in the very close and diversified relationship that exists between our two countries.

During our talks tomorrow, we shall be exchanging views on the international situation. In this way we shall be participating in the process of the building of a lasting structure of peace and security, the main aim of your foreign policy.

As a student of history, Mr. Kissinger, you are aware of the inherent instability of any world order that is too heavily weighted in favour of a given country. As a citizen of the United States, you recognize the need for pragmatism and flexibility in the conduct of foreign affairs -- principles that, I hasten to recall in the spirit of your country's bicentennial celebrations, Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson, each in his own way, made the cornerstone of the United States foreign policy.

What you seek to achieve, Mr. Secretary, was well described in a speech that you made in New Delhi last October. Allow me to quote from it:

"Our goal is to move toward a world where power blocs and balances are not dominant, where justice, not stability, can be our overriding preoccupation, where countries consider co-operation in the global interest to be in their national interest. For all that has been achieved, we must realize that we have taken only the first hesitant steps on a long and arduous road...."
