

I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED BY LORD CARRINGTON'S VIEW THAT NATO IS AS MUCH A POLITICAL AS A MILITARY ALLIANCE. HE HAS SAID THAT "DEFENCE POLICY IN A DEMOCRACY, OR IN A DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE, CANNOT BE STRONGER THAN THE PUBLIC SUPPORT ON WHICH IT RESTS". CANADA WAS A PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT OF ARTICLE II OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY WHICH SPEAKS OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WELL-BEING TO WESTERN SECURITY. THAT WAS THIRTY FIVE YEARS AGO, AND WE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THAT A YOUNGER GENERATION OF CANADIANS, LIKE THEIR COUNTERPARTS THROUGHOUT THE ALLIANCE, HAS COME TO KNOW NATO MORE BY ITS MISSILES THAN BY ITS VALUES. I WANT THE WIDER REALITY KNOWN AND CANADA, FOR OUR PART, IS DETERMINED TO JOIN LORD CARRINGTON'S EFFORTS TO BROADEN THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE REASONS FOR THE ALLIANCE.

I AM HERE TONIGHT TO TELL YOU THAT CANADIANS ARE READY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY WITH OTHER NATIONS IN MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE. WE ARE MORE UNITED AND CONFIDENT THAN BEFORE, AND MORE AWARE OF THE RISKS OF INWARDNESS AND COMPLACENCY. WE ARE EMBARKING ON A GREAT NATIONAL DISCUSSION OF OUR FUTURE IN THE WORLD AND ARE EAGER TO GET GOING. WE TREASURE OUR HISTORIC CONNECTIONS WITH BRITAIN AND OUR OTHER TRADITIONAL ALLIES, AND INTEND TO BUILD ON THEM. BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS I CAN DELIVER TONIGHT IS OF A PURPOSEFUL, SELF-CONFIDENT COUNTRY BUILDING ITS FUTURE IN THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT.