

That the United States was to share in keeping this northern bridge was the best of news. I find further encouragement in the words of President Roosevelt on Monday last when he said: "I know I speak for the conscience and determination of the American people when I say we shall do everything in our power to crush Hitler and his Nazi forces". The most important step in crushing Hitler is to render wholly secure this island base from which the final attack must be launched.

We, in Canada, were greatly heartened when, three years ago, the President, after referring to the Dominion of Canada as a part of the sisterhood of the British Empire, declared that the people of the United States would not stand idly by if domination of Canadian soil were threatened by any other Empire. In the name of our Government, I reciprocated at once by recognizing Canada's responsibility ^{to do what lay within her power} to prevent attacks through our territory upon the United States. These declarations were the starting point of our agreement for joint defence.

Today, fortunately, we are witnessing the birth of still wider arrangements for joint defence between the British Empire and the United States. Your declaration, Prime Minister, that, in the Far East, Britain would stand at the side of the United States, is a sure sign of the deepening interdependence of the free world. A similar declaration, on the part of the United States, as respects Nazi Germany would, I believe, serve to shorten this perilous conflict. Such a declaration

would be full of meaning