

to our own national freedom, we may share the international responsibilities which all free peoples must accept if liberty is to be maintained and security established.

In this search the United Nations is of paramount importance. With all its faults (which are essentially the faults of its members) it is still the great hope of mankind. But, as we look ahead to the time when the purposes of this universal Charter are translated into reality on a world scale, we recognize the present need for smaller associations of like-minded nations determined to work together in the interests of peace and fuller international co-operation.

One of these associations is NATO, which embodies in a practical way the doctrine of collective security laid down in the United Nations Charter. For Canada, NATO reconciles the facts of our North American geography with the equally important facts of our traditional and special links with the United Kingdom and France, as well as the peoples of Western Europe.

The Commonwealth is another such association, and for us the oldest and most deeply rooted. To Canadians there is no inconsistency between our membership in NATO and our membership in the Commonwealth. On the contrary, they complement and strengthen one another. It is axiomatic that Canada is interested in Anglo-American co-operation; it is equally axiomatic that peace depends in great measure upon the continuance of this within the framework of the co-operation of all free peoples. To such co-operation the Commonwealth makes an essential contribution.

The first and obvious sphere in which Atlantic and Commonwealth interests converge is in the protection of the peace. No nations have made a greater contribution to this vital task than the members of the Commonwealth. Of those, it would be ungenerous not to mention especially the United Kingdom, the heart and centre of our league. The steadfast and sturdy people of this Kingdom have given the world a lesson in indomitable courage in time of war and in facing the problems that have plagued the post-war period.

Another field where the interests of NATO and the Commonwealth converge is that of international trade and economic policy. Here a great responsibility rests upon the United States as well as upon my own country. But the other Commonwealth countries, holding a position of leadership in the sterling area, can do much - and are doing much - to rebuild the foundations of multilateral trade. It is to be hoped that the plans already projected by Commonwealth governments, combined with the leadership which we have the right to expect from the United States, will set us firmly on this road with a minimum of delay. Nothing today is more important to the well-being of free nations, or to their ability to withstand long-range threats to their security, than this form of economic co-operation.

I have already referred to Asian nationalism and the emergence of India, Pakistan and Ceylon as independent states and members of the Commonwealth. Few developments of recent years have so caught the imagination of Canadians. Perhaps this is partly because these countries came on the international scene when Canada was for the first time compelled