

placed at the top of the agenda in 1989. Effective controls on acid rain are vital for the health of the shared North American environment.

The defence and security of North America will continue to be a priority in Canada-USA relations. The joint commitment to modernize northern defences symbolizes our shared security concerns. Canada and the USA also share the belief that security interests compel their commitment to European defence. Canada's contribution to NATO has increased and will continue to do so.

The meeting in Washington will offer the two leaders the opportunity to exchange views on bilateral as well as on international economic and political/security issues in advance of two major summits - the Economic Summit meeting Prime Minister Mulroney will host in Toronto June 19-21, 1988 and the forthcoming Moscow Summit between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev.

Another area of great interest is the management and development of respective Arctic regions in a manner that ensures the rights and concerns of both Canada and the USA are respected. The potential of the Arctic is vast, but its environment is fragile, and demands caution. Canada-USA cooperation in the Arctic spans economic, scientific, environmental and security issues. The Arctic Cooperation Agreement signed January 11, 1988 is one important step in this process.

#### **The 1985 Quebec Summit**

The first annual bilateral meeting between the Prime Minister and the President was held in Quebec City in March 1985, following upon a proposal made by Prime Minister Mulroney when he met with President Reagan in September 1984.

The Quebec Summit in March 1985 was instrumental in setting the tone and confirming the mutual interest of the Canadian and American leaders in embarking on a new era of collaboration and friendship.

To mark the occasion the Prime Minister and the President

- Issued a Declaration on Trade in Goods and Services, committing themselves to an enhancement of market access, a halt to protectionism and the facilitation of trade and investment.