

from seven. It straddles the continents of Europe, Africa, North America, and Asia. It cuts across racial divisions and cultures. It is a co-operative partnership of nations and peoples at a time when elemental forces seem bent upon tearing our planet apart. In a world sorely divided and embittered by suspicion and fear and the struggle of contending political creeds, the Commonwealth stands as a voluntary association of sovereign states, committed in their dealings with one another to the principles of peace and justice - in its very variety and tolerance an example to the world of how nations can survive and prosper in mutual friendship and respect.

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