

Do you know why we are afraid? We are afraid because you often talk of imperialism. What is imperialism? It is a people, generally a great power, that makes conquests and increases its influence throughout the world.

What is the historical reality of these last years? There is but one great power that emerged from the war having conquered other territories, and that power is the U.S.S.R.

It was during the war and because of the war that you annexed the Baltic countries; it was during and because of the war that you took a slice of Finland; it was during and because of the war that you took part of Poland. It is thanks to your audacious and supple policy that you have become all-powerful in Warsaw, Prague, Belgrade, Bucharest, Sofia; it is thanks to your policy that you occupy Vienna and Berlin and that you are not disposed to withdraw; it is thanks to your policy that you are reasserting your rights to share in control of the Ruhr. And having seen your empire which extends from the Far East to the Baltic and from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean, we now feel you also on the banks of the Rhine - and you ask us why we are anxious!

Could there be any more eloquent explanation of Western Union or still more of a North Atlantic Security Pact under the charter and within the framework of the United Nations?

Plans alone are useless. We must put them into effect.

First, there must be action on the political front so that the countries concerned will consider their essential common objectives of security and recovery as well as their individual interests.

Second, there must be action on the economic front so that the countries concerned will work together for prosperity as well as for security and peace.

Third, there must be action on the military front so that there will be a concerted effort with unity of command, agreed strategy and planned use of resources.

We are giving credits and loans and advances to Britain and the countries of Europe because we believed it was in Canada's own interest to do so, though it also happens to be the Christian, the humane and the decent thing to do. It has been in our own interest because our long-term prosperity in part depends on the productive capacity of Britain and Europe being restored so they can pay for the Canadian goods we have to sell. But not only this - it has been in our own short-term interest because we do not send dollars abroad, we send goods, goods for which, for a large part, there is no alternative market anywhere. We have extended credits so that we might sell our products and at the same time help to revive Europe to buy more.

With regard to defence, we are building up the defence forces necessary to defend Canada against immediate attack and to serve as the nucleus for large forces should an emergency arise. We have close working arrangements with the United States under the Joint Declaration of February 12, 1947,

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