

So great is my respect for the groups which have sponsored and organized this vital meeting that I immediately accepted your invitation to come here. I have come not because I have "the" solution to the threat of nuclear war but because I want to be with you as we struggle together to develop policies to guarantee the survival and integrity of human life.

All of us in this room are well aware of the immense dangers caused by the nuclear mountain the world has built. There is not a human being unaffected today by the vast ramifications of the nuclear arms race.

It is not another analysis of world conditions that I bring you. Not another catalogue of despair. Not another sweeping strategy.

I am bringing instead the determination of the Canadian government to take practical measures, at home and abroad, to make inch-by-inch progress in meeting the threat of nuclear war. We believe in sure-footed steps towards collective security and mutuality of interests in equitable development.

We cannot work alone. The problems of our time are insurmountable if any country relies on unilateral action. The fundamental problems of militarism and deprivation are so mired in the interdependent realities of our global society that solo efforts are hopeless. New multilateral efforts, led by the medium-sized countries such as Canada, can help improve the atmosphere and put specific, workable ideas on the agenda.