

Even if the Atlantic Community is not separated in this way, it must come to mean more than a military coalition of states, each primarily concerned about its own sovereignty, its own prerogatives, its own past, present and future. National values, national traditions, national identities must, of course, be preserved, but increasingly in the context of collective policy and action. There can be now no satisfactory national security or national progress without what used to be called "foreign entanglements".

To stand firmly and exclusively on the immutable and exclusive rights of national sovereignty in this nuclear, stratospheric, jet-propelled age makes as much sense as driving to this dinner with a horse and buggy -- indeed, it doesn't make nearly as much sense. You could have got to this dinner, New York traffic being what it is, just as quickly and comfortably in a buggy as in an eight-cylinder motor car.

Moreover, I repeat, the larger community must be based on something more permanent than a military alliance in the face of a common danger; it must rest on political and economic co-operation, on a growing feeling of Atlantic solidarity and cohesiveness.

May I quote a few words on this point from the 1956 report of the Committee of Three on Non-Military Co-operation in NATO? That report has this to say:

"The fundamental, historical fact is that the nation state, by itself and relying exclusively on national policy and national power, is inadequate for progress or even for survival in the nuclear age. As the founders of the North Atlantic Treaty foresaw, the growing interdependence of states, politically and economically as well as militarily, calls for an ever-increasing measure of international cohesion and co-operation. Some states may be able to enjoy a degree of political and economic independence when things are going well. No state, however powerful, can guarantee its security and its welfare by national action, alone".

This is from a NATO report seven years ago; it remains true, perhaps even truer, today.

Canadian Viewpoint

The compulsion of events and their tragic impact for us in two wars had driven this home to Canadians, along with the importance to us and to the world of Anglo-American friendship. Canada has had the good fortune to share in the benefits and responsibilities of that friendship. Whenever it shows any sign of weakening, we are the first to worry, and for good reason.

Traditionally, Canada's interests have been centred on the North Atlantic area. Economically, culturally, politically and strategically, the relationships within this region have in the past tended to be the decisive ones for us. A hundred thousand Canadian crosses in Flanders and other foreign fields are sad witness of the fact.