STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 63/10

THE GREATEST VISION IN MANKIND'S HISTORY

A speech by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, to the Annual Awards Dinner of the Overseas Press Club of America, in New York, on May 28, 1963

I am very pleased and honoured to have this opportunity of addressing the Annual Awards Dinner of the Overseas Press Club of America. Among your ranks are to be found some of the foremost journalists of the world; men and women who have made substantial contributions to the reporting and analysis of international problems. Those of us who are daily engaged with these problems share with you very heavy responsibilities in this world of rapid change and recurring risk.

This is the third public speech which I have made since taking office. I intend making a complete statement on Canadian foreign policy to the House of Commons at the earliest possible opportunity. You will appreciate, I am sure, that in keeping with Canadian Parliamentary traditions, I must make any new policy statements before Parliament.

The new Government assumed office in Canada just a little over a month ago. It has been a busy and an eventful month. We have been engaged in a wide-ranging review of Canadian policies in all fields, in surveying and assessing both problems and opportunities and in preparing our legislative programme, a portion of which has already been placed before Parliament.

Cur primary aim in these first weeks has been to reestablish confidence in Canada, confidence among Canadians about the great promise which the future holds, and confidence among our allies of our determination to make our utmost effort to work for solutions of our mutual problems and for the relief of tensions in the world.

The Prime Minister has already undertaken highly successful visits to London and Hyannis Port. These meetings signified the Government's intention to reaffirm our historic ties with Britain and the Commonwealth and also with our closest