

that, through a corresponding strengthening of ties across the Pacific, we can look forward in years to come to the development of a true world-wide community of freedom-loving countries.

A North Pacific Triangle

These are not merely generalizations, they are based on contemporary facts. Ever since the early fifties, both the United States and Canada have recognized the common interest they have with Japan in preserving and strengthening democratic institutions throughout the world. Ever since Japan's admission to the United Nations in 1956, as a result of an initiative with which I am very proud to have been associated, the spheres of co-operation have grown so rapidly, both in number and in substance, that we have now reached a point where we may consider ourselves a unique transpacific partnership -- forming an increasingly visible North Pacific Triangle.

Some years ago a Canadian historian wrote a book tracing the historic relations among Canada, Britain and the United States. He called it the "North Atlantic Triangle" and he showed how important this triangular relationship had been to the three countries concerned. I hope some Canadian scholar will make a similar study of the equivalent situation in the Pacific, where we have a North Pacific Triangle made up of Canada, Japan and the United States.

There are a number of fields in which the importance of this triangular relation in the North Pacific region is constantly impressed upon us. As one immediate example, in only two days' time representatives of Japan, Canada and the United States will meet in Ottawa to discuss the International North Pacific Fisheries Convention to which our three countries are signatories. That meeting serves to underline our common interest in the conservation and exploitation of the resources of the waters which lap the shores of our three countries.

Pacific Pathways of Trade

The Pacific Ocean also provides pathways of commerce between Japan, Canada and the United States. This commerce is of vital and growing significance. For Canada, the United States is our largest market and Japan is the third largest, following Britain, which is our partner in that other triangular relationship I referred to a moment ago. Japan is the second largest market for the United States, after Canada, and North America is, I believe, the largest single market for Japanese exports. Obviously, therefore, the prosperity of Canada, Japan and the United States is dependent to a very significant degree on the maintenance of a healthy, expanding, three-way trade amongst us.

Of course, this mutually profitable trade requires the continued existence of stable and peaceful conditions in the world and in this Pacific region particularly. Therefore, Canada, Japan and the United States have a common concern over any potential threat to peace in the Pacific and a mutual interest in seeing that any international dispute or source of tension is ameliorated. There are such areas of possible conflict bordering the Pacific. In Vietnam, for example, bitter fighting is going on on a considerable scale. Canada is very directly concerned with the situation in Vietnam because we are a member of the International Control Commission which was charged with supervising some aspects of the Geneva Agreement of 1954. The United States is

Paragraph delivered in French