

"There is our remembrance that in the soil of France tens of thousands of our sons rest in the quiet of God's acre - our sons who, in two world wars, went out from us into the storm for freedom. In many hundreds of plots throughout the hills and valleys from Flanders to Picardy, lie our dead, in resting places dedicated forever to their memory and cared for tenderly by the grateful heart of France.

"You have brought a new strength to France at home and abroad. By your compatriots you have been entrusted with the responsibility of restoring the stability of the French state; through the courageous application of your powers. France is firmly embarked on a brilliant renaissance. You have opened the door to an honourable settlement of the difficult struggle in Algeria; and, in territories where the tricolor has flown for generations, you have been the architect and builder of the Community of independent states joined by a common loyalty to the traditions and ideals of democracy.

#### MOMENTOUS VISIT

"This visit is an important one in that it has provided an opportunity for a continuation of the discussions between us which began in Paris in November 1958. The intervening eighteen months have been fateful for our civilization. The great issues that confront the world have come into sharper relief and are approaching a stage of decision, a time when the quality of leadership will be submitted to its sternest test. National leaders must in large measure assume personally the burden of travel, discussion and negotiation. Personal contacts on the highest level have been multiplying since our last meeting and have been an essential preliminary to the formal meeting of chiefs of state and heads of government which you will attend in Paris a month hence. Although not a participant at the summit, Canada has nonetheless a vital concern with the outcome. We will be following with intense interest each stage of the negotiations and, as occasion requires, we will not fail to express our views in full candour so that you and your Western colleagues at the summit will be in no doubt as to where we stand.

"Today, in our discussions, we have examined together the outlook for peace. You are acquainted with the elements of our thinking on the great issues of foreign policy. None of them is greater than an end to the arms race with its financial burden on national economies and all its grave dangers to peace. France and Canada are partners in the search for a disarmament agreement as members of the Ten-Nation Committee now meeting in Geneva. I know you are aware that no objective of policy so accurately reflects the hopes of Canadians.

"While our countries are joined in friendship by history, sentiment, and international organization, the maintenance of that friend-

ship requires constant care. Leaders of the free world dare not forget that consistent and continuing consultation at a high level on political and economic questions is necessary to dissolve misunderstandings when they occur, (as they will even among friends), and to ensure the most effective co-operation and unity.

"Canada honours you as the war-time soul of France and a realistic and idealistic statesman of his country's restored strength and power.

"For these reasons, Mr. President, because of what you are, what you have been, and what you represent, and because you come to us as a tried ally and friend, we salute you with admiration, and we say to you with all our heart, 'Vive la France!'"

The text of President de Gaulle's reply follows in translation:

"The words which you have addressed to me have moved me deeply. In thanking you, I want to tell you of my own impression now that I am in touch with Canada.

#### FRANCE IN CANADA

"The first voice I hear is that of History. France will always pride herself in having brought to your soil, more than four centuries ago, the germs of civilizing progress and the breath of the Christian spirit. If, later on, other tides and influences made their mark here; if there were rivalries, battles and dismemberments, nevertheless the seed sown by France in Canada grew strong, even though other harvests have also ripened. Briefly, just as one sees the water plants rise to the surface, so I feel, rising from the depths of the past, all sorts of ties, lures and likenesses which draw the spirit and the heart of my country very close to those of yours.

"This was made abundantly clear during the two World Wars. How could we, Frenchmen, ever forget the talents displayed and the prodigious sacrifices of so very many of your soldiers during the First World War on the battlefields of Artois and Flanders, and the heroic ranks of those buried in the soil of France? How could we fail to bear in mind your exemplary participation, in the Second War, in the great battles of Normandy, of Picardy, of Belgium and Germany, thanks to which Europe was liberated? How could I fail to keep alive the memories of the two visits I have already made to Canada, one in 1944 when I saw you straining in your war effort; the other in 1945 on the morrow of victory; while you were already beginning to recover, and you were holding our the hand of help to a ravaged France? I could not fail, in this regard, to hail the memory of Mackenzie King who led his country, while I was leading mine, through those glorious trials.

"And now, how do you appear to us? Materially, a new country, of vast size, mighty resources, inhabited by a hard-working and

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