

It indicates the spirit in which we have approached opportunities for Canada in Latin America where we have great interest but not great influence. But where one of the areas where our influence can be applied is in trying to make effective the Contadora process if there is ever a peace to be kept. It is one of the vocations of Canada; that has been to be excellent in peace keeping. And that certainly, if agreements are reached in Central America, is a talent that will be well required, and Canada has contributed substantially to the development of the peace keeping mechanism there.

The approach we have taken; the deliberate opening to Asia at a time when restraint forces the Secretary of State to be closing embassies here and there. We have opened four consular offices and trade offices in the Asian Pacific Rim; in New Zealand; in Shanghai; in Osaka; in Bombay. We know that there is a great opportunity not only for trade but also for cultural exchange across the second of Canada's three oceans.

We are trying to follow a policy of maintaining steady pressure for progress in the world. We have the weight to do that; we have the will to do that. We believe that is what Canadians expect.

Let me say so, I think it is important in a world that is evolving that Canada play that role actively. We have some very unique credentials. We are partners, for example, with India and Zimbabwe in the Commonwealth; with Tunisia and Zaire in the Francophonie; with the Soviet Union in Northern development; with all of the industrialized powers in the Economic Summit; with Mexico and Argentina in support of Contadora; with Thailand and Brazil in the Cairns Group, whose meeting opens tomorrow.

Those associations give us a reach beyond our traditional roots. We are a country of considerable power, but not a superpower. One of the realities of our existence is that our influence exceeds our power, if we use that influence well, and if we make use of all of the instruments that are available to us.