

First, pending the attainment of universal collective security, we must maintain regional security, strengthen those traditional associations with other free nations on which a good deal of world security and progress depends and pursue all the normal interests, such as trade and immigration, on which our own national well-being has also depended.

Second, at the same time, we must pursue vigorously in the United Nations the objectives of peace, economic and social welfare and human rights. We must cultivate friendly relations with the newly-independent nations and with all states in the spirit of enlightened internationalism.

Third, Canada and like-minded nations must take all opportunities in direct relations with the Communist nations to make our intentions clear, to respond to changes in the Communist world which offer possibilities of a more normal relationship and to advance specific interests of trade, information and protection of individuals. In this way, some of the basic tensions affecting the world generally may be lessened.

Most aspects of the external policies of the Canadian Government can be related to one or more of these basic requirements. Some of the more important of these policies might be mentioned by way of illustration.

The North Atlantic Alliance, which Canada helped to create, has completed 16 years of existence, and there is general agreement among the members that the need for such a defensive association remains very great. With the security and self-confidence which this Alliance provided for the area it covered, Western Europe has effected a remarkable recovery from the effects of the war. The nations of Western Europe have gone ahead with the North American members of the Alliance to make their contribution to security and welfare elsewhere in the world.

There are, as you know, debates and disagreements within the Alliance about the exact nature of the organization required to fulfill the purposes of the agreement, about the degree of integration of forces required and about control of nuclear weapons. These questions pose major problems of policy; they also provide evidence of the seriousness with which members view matters affecting their security and of their desire to have the structure of the Alliance reflect changing conditions. In spite of differences over method and procedure, all NATO leaders are agreed about the danger of aggression which makes an alliance imperative.

A few days ago, I had the pleasure of meeting the Secretary-General of NATO, Signor Brosio, in New York and of discussing matters of mutual interest with him. I shall have the privilege of acting as Honorary President at the next NATO Council meeting in December. I can testify, therefore, to the importance which is attached by the Government to a relationship among nations which transcends the idea of a mere military alliance and will continue to develop, we trust, into a permanent association of peoples with common traditions and ideals. I can also testify to the basic unity of purpose of the Alliance.