

The President of France

all the peoples who respect the liberty of others, will associate itself with the new world so that upon this international economic and political co-operation may be built enduring peace.

Whatever it may cost us, the victory of peace is the prize.

Let us not miss any possibility of agreement, even partial, and no occasion to dissipate misunderstandings; but so long as the United Nations have not the necessary armed forces to maintain international order, we must neglect nothing in the organization of our common regional defence.

Let us not cease to proclaim the right and the principles of an enduring peace, but let us judge the sincerity of our partners by their acts and by their actual contribution to the easing of international tension.

France is not giving herself up to any naïve neutralism, and whatever sacrifices our rearmament efforts add to our already crushing burdens for rehabilitation and re-equipment, we know that no sacrifice is as heavy as that of liberty.

There is no better testimony of our resolution than the heroism of our soldiers who are fighting in Korea in the service of the United Nations, and for more than four years have been fighting in Indo-China, where it is now recognized, after much injustice, that they defend no selfish interest but the independence that France has given to the young states of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos. They mount guard at the gates of southeast Asia.

France is thus faithful to her traditions and the ideal of our common civilization.

Momentarily exhausted by the wounds she received while the world was unorganized, she always knows that it is in the exaltation of the spirit that great things—the proud cathedrals and lofty monuments of right—are wrought.

With Great Britain, Canada and the United States, and the free world, France shares a common faith. And the visit of the President of the French republic to your country is not only the manifestation of the enduring affection of France, but the expression of our will to work together to achieve greater liberty, greater justice and greater fraternity.

Hon. Elie Beauregard (Speaker of the Senate): Mr. President of the Republic, the Canadian Senate joins with the Prime

Minister in greeting you as the first citizen of France and in wishing you a most cordial welcome.

To your visit among us we owe the honour to pay our respects to Madame Auriol and the pleasure to renew acquaintance with some of the best builders of the alliance of nations and of world peace.

Even before your arrival we had heard of the message you bring to America, a message of co-operation and of solidarity. It will help strengthen the feeling of true democracy that Canada has inherited from its two mother countries.

The position of our country—a country in some respects so new—its abundant natural resources and its life ideals have caused it to occupy in the council of nations a place formerly held by nations of greater population.

Canada enters the scene at a time when western democracies must, more than ever before, maintain a social order mindful of the true scale of values, where money serves production, where production serves humanity and humanity itself serves an ideal that gives life its true meaning.

That objective has always been pursued by the civilizing power that is France. Today, the French people, who have witnessed, within thirty years, two invasions, two victories and, need I add, two post-war periods, remain the unconquered champions of human freedom. Not only have the French people fought alone for several years against Asiatic communism, but they remain the cornerstone of the fortress which western democracies must build in Europe.

Four million Canadians share with the French people an inalienable heritage based on a glorious past and a culture of universal significance. One of your historians was thinking of that past and culture when he said that England is an empire, Germany a country, and France a lady. May I be permitted to offer to that lady, the mother of letters, arts and arms, the tribute of our attachment and of our admiration.

(Text):

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald (Speaker of the House of Commons): Mr. President, the Speaker of the Senate has expressed to you in the beautiful French language our appreciation of your eloquent and inspiring address. May I add an expression of appreciation in the English language. Canada is a bilingual country, and whether we speak in French or in English we speak the language of Canada.