

In our differences with the United States, we Canadians have to remember two things.

One, that in any major war we must be on the same side.

Two, that in any major economic conflict, we would suffer more than they would by a policy of retaliation.

The moral of this is not that we should be less Canadian, but that we should do everything we possibly can to ensure that Canada's influence and Canada's policy, especially in its relations with the United States, will be directed toward the avoidance of conflict - political and economic. The same, of course, applies to the United States of America.

Looking back, then, after four years, I am confirmed in my view that the days of relatively easy and automatic relations between our two countries are over.

But I am also more firmly of the view than ever that those relations are bound to become closer and more important to both countries than ever before.

To do what it can to ensure that this development will take place in friendship, and in mutual respect and understanding, is the most important problem of Canadian foreign policy today.

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