

from the impact of imperial policy on that development, have been solved. There is now little to worry us and very much to satisfy us in the Commonwealth relationship. It is a relationship which we must maintain and strengthen.

On the other hand, our problems with the United States are, if not new, at least expressing themselves in new and, at times, perplexing forms. They constitute a challenge to both countries. It will be easier on our part to meet that challenge successfully - as we must - if we keep a sense of proportion; avoiding excessive touchiness or assertiveness; if we show ourselves to be not only nationally alert but also nationally mature.

We are not, of course, a mere economic or political extension of any other state. We stand firmly on our national feet and we must stand up for our own national interests. When these interests are endangered by the policies and practices of any other country, however friendly, we must speak out and, if necessary, act. The record shows that we are not afraid to do this. Other countries - especially the United States - would not have much respect for us otherwise.

There is a tradition of forthright but friendly exchange of views across our border, which is uniquely valuable. We do not want to lose it. That loss, however, could be brought about from abuse by exaggeration or over-indulgence, on the one hand, or by super-sensitiveness or morbid suspicion on the other. We should guard against both.

This increasing importance of Canada and the United States to each other is two-fold. Not only is our relationship in a bilateral sense of great and growing significance, there is also the fact that the United States through its power and resources is the country best equipped to give political leadership to the Western world, which includes Canada, in the search for peace and security against aggressive communism. Canada, therefore, and the other members of the coalition, have an obligation in their own interest not to act without considering the major responsibilities for collective security now being borne by the United States.

This realization that we must stand together or fall separately explains why today in our defence policies we do not, indeed cannot, rely on national action alone, which would be totally inadequate, but on collective arrangements, especially through NATO.