This association was created by men possessed of wisdom and tenacity. Their concern a quarter of a century ago was the protection of our way of life from what they perceived to be a common external threat. It is to their credit that NATO's discharge of this, its primary role, has been wholly successful. Today, however, our civilization faces any number of threats, and any number of challenges, some of them familiar to those men who signed the North Atlantic Treaty, some of them unforeseen then by even the most far-sighted. It has been our willingness as partners in NATO to face up to these issues of change that has proved the strength of this alliance.

It will be our willingness to continue to face issues of change which will prove our strength in the future, problems which respect no geographical bounds yet which are the more insistent and the more persistent as a result. Food, population, energy, environment — these words do not appear in the North Atlantic Treaty. Yet today none of us would deny their

The Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau