

to the world at large, and in particular to the less-developed countries, which depend so greatly for their rapid economic advancement on a favourable world climate and on enlightened policies being followed by the richer countries. It was recognized, I think, at the recent UN Conference on Trade and Development that, unless the richer countries can co-ordinate policies in the economic realm, the chances of their making the fullest possible contribution to an improvement in living standards in the less-developed countries will be appreciably lessened.

I have been speaking about some of the things to which we should collectively, as members of the alliance, might direct our attention. But, of course, it is of the essence of the conception of an Atlantic community that we should not only mend our collective fences but also that we should actively cultivate our relations with one another.

The Atlantic community spans a wide and varied geographical area; it also encompasses a wide and varied range of national interests and preoccupations. If the bonds holding such a community together are to hold firm and - as is our common desire - to grow stronger, it is indispensable that we should know more about each other. I can assure you that we in Canada attach the highest importance to the cultivation of closer contacts and relations between the individual members of the Atlantic community and that for our part, we shall do what we can to that end.

International Peace Keeping

I should like now to turn to an aspect of Canadian foreign and defence policy that is of particular interest and concern to Canadians, that of international peace keeping. I make no excuse for doing so before an audience primarily interested in the Atlantic alliance, for in the problem of Cyprus we have an example of a peace-keeping operation that directly affects two members of the alliance and, indeed, could, if not settled, have serious implications for the future of the alliance itself. To some of you, Canada may appear to put too much emphasis on this particular way of keeping the peace. We do so for two main reasons:

first, because, though our defence policy is based on our contributions to NATO, the defence of North America and international peace keeping, it is in the latter field that we believe, as a middle power, we are able to make a distinctive contribution.

secondly, because we believe that in a thermonuclear world where the Communist threat is now primarily subversive, and in a world of newly-independent and economically under-developed countries in which conditions of instability and disorder are apt to arise, an international force to keep the peace or hold the ring while negotiations take place is vital if we are to avoid the dangers of escalation to nuclear war. Whether we like it or not, we live in a shrinking world. Local hostilities, whether in Southeast