

considerable interest in my presentation of the Canadian world outlook, particularly in matters relating to Canadian participation in NATO, and other international groupings such as the Commonwealth and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation. He also enquired about Canadian attitudes toward the Law of the Sea Conference and about Canada's pollution-prevention zones in the Arctic, and about our energy policies.

For his part, Premier Chou presented with great clarity the views of his Government on issues of particular concern to China. I also explained to Premier Chou that, with one great power to our south and another to our north, it was natural that Canada should exert special efforts to establish and maintain close and friendly relations in other parts of the world. To the east, we are concerned with safeguarding and improving our relations with the countries of Europe, but equally it was important for us also to look west to the countries of Asia and the Pacific for co-operation and understanding. I was at special pains to point out that our relations with the U.S.A. were good and must necessarily remain so, that the American relation would obviously continue to form a vital part of our foreign policy. It was no reflection on any of our existing relations that we were seeking to establish and improve our contacts in other parts of the world.

Premier Chou and I agreed that, although there were factors that prevented us from seeing the same events in precisely the same light, our respective points of view were at least understandable to each other and often very similar. Speaking for Canada, I was able to assure him that friendship for China was and would continue to be an important element in our foreign policy.

I think I may say that this visit to Peking, the warm welcome and excellent arrangements that have been made for us, and the extremely friendly and candid conversations we have had, as well as the agreements and understandings we reached, have all combined to ensure that the relationship between the two countries will remain both friendly and of substantial importance to both.