

ties with Latin America are developing rapidly. Individual Canadians are coming more and more to appreciate the importance of this area for the future of our own country. As your theme suggests, this situation presents an obvious challenge to Canada.

I believe Canadians are beginning to respond to that challenge. We are responding through official channels and through unofficial channels, through governmental action on aid and trade and institutional questions and through non-governmental action in a religious, commercial or an individual context. This group and other similar bodies can, by study and informed judgment, make a vital contribution to the stand which our country takes in international affairs. I am sure that through all these efforts we shall be able to continue to take a constructive and forthright part in the councils of the world in pursuit of the objectives we share with the peoples of Latin America and with the peoples of other areas of the world, a stable and prosperous world society. Canada has an established record of honouring its obligations and of recognizing its opportunities in foreign affairs. I am confident we shall maintain and improve this record in Latin America.

---

S/C