

Our interest in Asia has also been increased as a result of the desire of our people to assist our Asian friends to improve their social and economic conditions. For several years we have been contributing quite substantially to United Nations efforts in this field and for the past three years we have also been spending more than \$25 million a year for this purpose through the Colombo plan. These facts give some indication of how important Asia has become in our lives. Decisions taken there, and the welfare and happiness of these peoples, have become of real concern to us.

Canada, I think, has welcomed the opportunity to share in the encouragement of freedom and economic improvement in Asia because we realize the importance of maintaining good relations between the Western world and the hundreds of millions of our fellow men in these ancient nations of Asia. I feel that we can maintain good relations with them only as long as we treat them on terms of complete equality, with respect for their older and perhaps somewhat less materialistic culture and achievements, and in a spirit of genuine understanding and co-operation. We must deal with them in the realization that while we may seem to have much to give they too have a very important contribution to make to the general welfare of the world...

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