



CANADA

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 64/22

CANADIAN-AMERICAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Speech by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, to the Economic Club of Detroit, September 21, 1964.

I am greatly honoured to have been invited to address this "good-neighbour" luncheon today. I am particularly honoured, in your roster of speakers, to follow your distinguished Secretary of State. Mr. Rusk is esteemed in Canada as a great public servant of your country and as a good and trusted friend of Canada. As he himself told you last week we had an opportunity, just before he spoke to you, of comparing notes about some of the international developments which are causing all of us concern. I think our meeting on that occasion was typical of the close and cordial consultations that go on at all times and at all levels between our two governments and that play such a vital part in keeping Canadian-American relations in good repair.

You have asked me to speak to you on the subject of our economic relations. To do justice to such a subject it is important, I think, that it should be set in a wider perspective. Canada and the United States between them share this great sub-continent of North America. We are joined - not separated - by what is commonly described as the longest undefended border anywhere on this globe. We are partners not only in the defence of our sub-continent but in NATO - that great alliance of free men which has played so notable a part in enabling us to defend our free societies and to maintain peace and security in the world at large. We exchange more goods and services than any other two countries. We share between us the custodianship of vast natural resources. We are coming more and more to realize that we must use these resources for the joint benefit of both our countries. The Columbia River Treaty, which came into effect last week, after some 20 years of consideration, planning and negotiations, is, I think, an impressive example of Canadian-American co-operation in that sphere. We are linked by common traditions of government based on the consent of the governed and on the rule of law. And we also share in a vast network of cross-currents of information and ideas.