

China in spreading the light of Communism throughout the world.

This political schism has produced in the Chinese a deep feeling of bitterness toward the Soviet Union, which, in their eyes, has abandoned the precepts of its masters Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin,

all of whom are still very much alive in spirit in the libraries and public squares of the country of Mao. The Chinese are quick to point out that the West, including Canada, would be well-advised to be on its guard against the Soviets' "show of friendliness".

on the wisdom or the effectiveness of all policies, nor would one expect that this could be the case in a world in which the vagaries of history, the realities of geography, and the variations of social systems lend distinctive directions and points of view to governmental policies.

What I found most heartening, however, in my discussions with the Chinese leaders, was their understanding of, and sympathy for, Canada's foreign policy. In particular, I was not subjected to any demands that future Canadian relations with China would depend for their warmth on our attitudes toward any other country. I stated in Peking, both in the privacy of conversation with the Premier and on public occasions, that Canadian foreign policy sought to avoid tension, to strengthen the institutions of international co-operation and to assist the economic development of the newly-independent countries. I said as well that, in my belief, the true measurement of national greatness was found not in military might or in political ceremony but in the willingness of a country to recognize the importance of individual welfare, human dignity and a sense of personal accomplishment and fulfilment.

Many of the issues which were discussed with the Chinese leaders, and in the several committees of officials that were established during the course of the visit, reflected these beliefs and the desire of Canada to expand its international trade. . . .

Cannot be ignored

My visit to China, Mr. Speaker, leaves me without any doubt of the wisdom of the decision of the Canadian Government to reverse the long-standing policy of ignoring the People's Republic of China. Because that immense country of talented and industrious people will have an increasing impact on world affairs, and, because a

strengthening and enriching of the bilateral relationship between Canada and China can be beneficial to Canadians, that decision was right and will increasingly prove to be right. The presence of China in the United Nations and in other international councils makes it vital that Canada's interests and Canada's views be understood and, hopefully, supported by the Chinese Government. It will be of increasing advantage to Canada that Canadian leaders have opportunities to explain Canadian attitudes and policies to Chinese decision-makers just as — amongst many things — I exposed to Premier Chou the positions Canada will advocate at the forthcoming Law of the Sea Conference.

I was heartened again and again by the genuine friendship extended toward Canada and Canadians by the leaders and the people of modern China. I am confident that the diversification and enjoyment of our new ties with China will not interfere with the long-standing friendly relations which we enjoy with those several countries with whom we have special ties. Nor will it detract from our efforts to seek, to our advantage, the easing of tensions and the increase of contacts with other parts of the world.

It has not been the vastness of the Pacific that has acted as a barrier between Canada and China. The gulf has been found all too often in the minds of those of us who were unwilling to recognize the magnitude of one of the most significant revolutions in the history of the world and the extension of basic human amenities to hundreds of millions of persons to whom they had been denied for millennia.

The name of Canada is held in high respect in China, Mr. Speaker, and as a consequence Canadians are beneficiaries. It is the aim of this Government that this reputation, and those benefits, increase and continue.