

of all that competition, your Administration is giving deliberate priority to the United States' relations with Canada. The first major review of Canada-U.S. relations in over ten years has been undertaken by your State Department.

In less than a month, on St. Patrick's Day, your President and my Prime Minister are meeting in the historic old capital of Quebec City, to advance and to symbolize the relations between our two countries. Countries which, as well as being neighbours, are the best friend each other has. The last meeting of a President and a Prime Minister on that site was in 1944, and the British Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, was also there. That was a meeting of the leaders of the three countries whose quite uncommon resolve assured victory against the Axis powers. This new meeting in Quebec has its own significance, because it comes at a time when my country is expressing a new self confidence, and when yours is showing that it knows that a super-power needs friends as well as allies.

The two governments have decided to make these summit meetings an annual affair, so that, at least once a year, the President and the Prime Minister will meet to discuss directly the progress in relations between our two quite different countries.

But I want that mutual interest to go beyond governments and become a more permanent part of the understanding of the people of our two countries. That is unavoidable in Canada, where we are always aware of your presence. But Californians are perhaps not as aware of the importance of Canada to the United States and I want to review, very briefly, that Canadian contribution to your strength and prosperity.

We are your most important trading partner, surpassing by a rather wide margin your trade with Japan. In 1984, our two-way trade exceeded one hundred and five billion dollars (American). Whether that is expressed in your dollars or in ours, it represents a tremendous volume of trade. It amounted to more, last year, than your total trade with the entire European Economic Community. What is most significant is that, in addition to being one another's largest market, we are also one another's fastest growing market.

These facts directly affect California. Let me mention just the question of Canadian military procurement. Approximately half of our three billion dollar purchase of CF-18 interceptor aircraft went to the Northrop Corporation here. Our long range patrol aircraft