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CANADA-U.S. DEFENCE RELATIONS

In a Convocation address at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, on June 4, Prime Minister Diefenbaker said that there is no neutralism in Canada's thinking or conduct, no weakening of support for NATO. The Prime Minister discussed Canada-United States detence and commercial relations and stressed Canada's desire to fulfil her international obligations.

Mr. Diefenbaker said in part:
"Canada is the one country on the globe
which lies between the United States of America on the one hand, and the U.S.S.R. on the other. Canada is aware of the threat of a Powerful potential enemy, but all the world must know the direction from which we fear the threat to peace, and it is not to the south. The salient problem for Canada, the United States, and the free world everywhere, is whether we shall politically and technically keep pace with the political, psychological

and scientific advances of the Soviets.
"We cannot as rational human beings accept as inevitable the thought of a world laid waste by nuclear warfare, but that possibility cannot be denied....Canada, the United States, and the other nations of the free world must maintain sufficient military strength to deter an aggressor, and at the same time must seek through the processes of diplomacy to build, step by step, the necessary foundation of international confidence which offers the only hope of a permanent peace, and even the pros-Pect of survival.

"Realizing the danger of attack on North America, Canada and the United States have joined together to share in co-operation the burden of the defence of this continent through "NORAD" and within the framework of the larger North Atlantic Treaty Alliance.

BASIC FACTS

"Such co-operation requires that three fundamental facts be taken into consideration. The first is that by reason of modern technology, the actual land area of continental Canada and the United States is for the first time exposed to the possibility of crippling attack. The second is that Canada's population is too small to provide by itself for adequate defence in a modern war. The third is that the United States of America cannot defend itself with full effectiveness without Canadian cooperation and without defence facilities on Canadian territory.

"While I have listed these three basic factors, I do not forget that in addition to these things, which would compel co-operation even if our peoples were incompatible, it is still the fact that a close relationship between Canada and the United States is geographically, socially and idealogically natural since it is based on a common heritage

and a common aspiration.

"The close relationship of which I speak is not without difficulties for Canada. Canadians are proud of their land, proud of their heritage and particularly proud of their country's

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