



# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 65/3 Extracts from an Address by  
the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson,  
Prime Minister of Canada,  
to the Canadian Club of Ottawa,  
February 10, 1965.

How do we face the world in 1965 - and what face does the world show us at the present time?

In the first place, we shall not make much of a face at all - before others - if we do not maintain a good face at home, with strength and unity, a sense of purpose and progress. A weak and divided Canada, anxious about its present, and lacking faith in its future, can play no worthy part in international affairs. This is only one additional reason for confounding our domestic defeatists and for reminding ourselves that Canada's destiny is as bright as that of any country in the world. Foreigners know it. So should we, and declare our belief in words and action.

We must face the world, then, with confidence in ourselves. Only then can we continue to make an effective contribution to that search for peace and security which remains the first objective of our foreign policy.

What form should that contribution take? What is the best way, for us, at this time, to operate internationally, as a middle power whose policies cannot compel anyone but may influence many, as a middle power with a proud international record, a country which also has special advantages in diplomacy and international relations - advantages which flow out of our continental and Commonwealth positions, out of the reputation we have gained as a people who honourably discharge their international duties in war and in peace? Our opportunities, and our obligations too, are the greater because we have the economic power, the material resources, and the technical skills to make our position one of respectable importance, while we are not big enough to alarm anybody or dominate anybody's way of life. We have American plumbing without American power. This makes us attractive to many - especially new and under-developed states.