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## NATO AND A CHANGING EUROPE

*The following excerpts are from an address by Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson at the Mansion House, London, England, on November 27:*

...The economic problems you face today are not unique to Britain. They confront in varying degrees and at various times all states. Britain has had longer experience than most of us in finding solutions (often they have had to be improvised) for these problems. We've all benefited in the past from your practical genius in the art of government, in its economic as well as its political aspects. I am confident that this genius - with the hard work that alone makes genius effective - will enable Britain to overcome present difficulties.

I hope, also, that we shall all learn something from these difficulties because their significance goes beyond your boundaries. In particular we should now realize, if we didn't realize it before, that co-operation between nations in finance, monetary policy, and economics, is almost as important as it is for defence and security. And its breakdown can be almost as disastrous.

In my own country (and not for the first time, as anyone familiar with Canadian history knows), we are also facing problems - economic problems, financial problems, but especially problems of federalism and national unity. They are our problems, to be solved, as they will be solved, by us and not by outside intervention in our domestic affairs. Let me add that no country in the world has the possibility of a greater future than ours, and no country is more likely to realize that future.

We are trying to find a strong and enduring foundation for political unity and individual oppor-

tunity within social, cultural, and geographic diversity. And it's not an easy problem to solve. But this search is not confined to Canada. It is part of the larger search for new dimensions of individual freedom and personal opportunity in a world where man's fantastic technological and scientific progress has only emphasized the primitive character of so much of his social and political behaviour. That is why I believe it to be a chief purpose of the members of the Commonwealth today to work together in the knowledge that the fundamental needs and aspirations of man are universal - whatever his language, whatever the colour of his skin, whatever his race or his country. And this purpose, as I have just said, is wider than our own country, wider than our Commonwealth. It encompasses the family of man, and its full recognition should be the basis of international relations on this small and crowded planet. But the contemporary world gives little evidence that such a basis is likely to get general acceptance in the immediate future.

We had a vision of what might be done at San Francisco in 1945. That vision soon disappeared and the cold war came and destroyed the hope that the United Nations would soon ensure freedom, fraternity and security for all men. As a second best, you remember, we formed a regional coalition spanning the Atlantic Ocean - a coalition through which member states could work together for political co-operation and collective defence. This was another postwar dream, this Atlantic dream - the building of an Atlantic community of interdependent states willing to pool their sovereignty in the interests of their security and their progress.