



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

60/5

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL ROLE - A NEW-YEAR REVIEW

An address by Mr. Howard C. Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to the Advertising and Sales Bureau, Vancouver Board of Trade, on January 4, 1960.

Today Canadians enter the first full week of the 1960's--and I have thought it would be appropriate to give you a first-hand report of the part Canada is playing in the great international meetings which are such a feature of the fast-developing world scene; then, to speak briefly of our special relationship to other international groups and to certain individual countries.

As businessmen you will recognize that international affairs are not something remote--to be left to political leaders in London, Washington, Paris, Moscow and Ottawa--but rather that they have a direct and profound effect on every Canadian; in fact, unless there are peaceful stable conditions throughout the world, Canada will be one of the countries to suffer most because of her dependence on export trade.

The great powers, with their large populations and stable internal markets are, in large measure, insulated against the economic consequences of world tension.

That is one reason why Canada not only must play her full part in international affairs but also must seek constantly to give leadership in building the kind of world society in which we can develop our country within the framework of an expanding world economy.

And make no mistake about it, Canada has an important part to play. In fact, for no nation is there a greater challenge in world affairs today or a greater opportunity for leadership than there is for Canada. Now, why do I say that? Let me illustrate my point by getting back to the great international meetings of our present day.

Our participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

I begin with a report on the important meetings of NATO which I attended in Paris less than three weeks ago.