

strengthened by the establishment of the Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence, by the Hyde Park Agreement, which instituted a joint programme of war production for our two countries, and by our common partnership in war.

In recent weeks in Sicily, soldiers of Canada and the United States have fought shoulder to shoulder for the first time in our long history as close neighbours. The armed forces of our two countries are at present engaged in a combined operation against the Japanese at Kiska in the Aleutians. That operation recalls vividly to all our minds the origins of the joint defence of North America by Canada and the United States. Our joint defence had its beginnings in the historic statement made by President Roosevelt at Queen's University in Kingston on his last official visit to Canada, and in the reply I made, in the name of the Canadian people, at Woodbridge two days later. Out of those reciprocal assurances came the Ogdensburg Agreement in the dark days of 1940. When Japan made her treacherous attack in December, 1941 our joint plans went into effect without a moment's delay. It is a happy co-incidence which brings the President to Ottawa at the very moment we are witnessing the climax of our joint defence in the operation against the last Japanese outpost in the Western Hemisphere.

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