STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND BRAZIL

A speech by Mr. Sidney E. Smith, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at the Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on November 18, 1958.

It is a great honour for me to be your guest in this stately palace of Itamaraty, in this House of Rio Branco, this shrine of Brazilian statesmanship, where the present walks with the past in such gracious dignity.

I deeply appreciate what you have said about my country and your kind references to myself, and I thank you most sincerely for the warmth and generosity of your welcome and your hospitality.

I bring you the most cordial and affectionate greetings of the people of Canada and their Government; and I transmit to you their ardent desire for the strengthening of those links of friendship, of mutual understanding and of mutual interest which today, as in the past, unite us in the bonds of shared ideals and a shared tradition.

As a Canadian I am proud to recall that, twice in this century, Canadians have marched with Brazilians in defence of freedom and that today Brazilians and Cánadians stand shoulder to shoulder on guard for peace in the Middle East.

Our two countries, it seems to me, have much in common. We are both peoples of the Americas. We share the historical experience of having left our ancestral homes in Europe to pioneer on the frontiers of the New World. We share the experience of having won political independence. We share a deeply rooted respect for the rights of the individual man; a profound belief in the necessity of the rule of law; and an unswerving dedication to the democratic freedoms.

Being both immense countries of continental proportions, our concept of man's relation to space is similar. In the economic field--in agriculture, in industry, in transport, communications--as in the sphere of political organization, many