

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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JAPANESE - CANADIAN RELATIONS

Speech by the Honourable Paul Martin,
Secretary of State for External Affairs,
to the Canada - Japan Society, Tokyo,
September 7, 1964.

It is a great pleasure to address this distinguished gathering. I feel particularly privileged to be able to do so to a group such as the Canada - Japan Society, which represents, probably better than any other organization, the true links between our two countries. No matter how important our diplomats consider their hurrying and scurrying to be, their work would all be in vain if it did not assist in the establishment of ties such as the ones you are maintaining. Your contacts with Canada are what I should call the working-level lines of communication between Japan and Canada.

While it is true that our countries have a number of abstract, ideological ties that bind them (a faith in democratic institutions, love of freedom, respect for social and technological progress and dedication to peace), it is the flow of traffic you conduct across the Pacific that provides the substance for these ties. The economic, trade, educational and cultural relations which you are developing daily between Japan and Canada are, in fact, the life-blood of Japanese - Canadian relations. For ideals are meaningless, even ideals common to different countries, unless they are built upon and put into action by individuals.

We are happy to be here at a time we consider to be a turning-point in the development of transpacific relations. The post-war period in international relations is now a thing of the past. The period of reconstruction that followed the Second World War and was accompanied by a re-formulation of links between free countries is now one of the aspects of the immediate past everyone can take for granted.

New Stature of Japan

Nowhere is this better exemplified, I believe, than in Japan. The pace of activity, the dynamism and zeal I have witnessed on every hand wherever I have gone in the past few days, have left me with the overall picture of an incredibly vigorous country. All the signs of activity we have seen are not