

of the West and part of the world and prepared to meet our obligations to both. Again — to repeat my immortal observations in Parliament last Tuesday — our friendship with the United States did not stop Canada from playing a leading role in bringing relief to Ethiopia, although the regime in that country is deeply disliked by the United States. It did not stop the Prime Minister from a highly successful meeting in the Caribbean. We have demonstrated to our NATO allies that they have two strong friends in North America, not just one. We have provided our unique expertise in peacekeeping to the Contadora countries in Central America. We have been invited by all sides to help in the Sinai. We are working from within to reform the organization of UNESCO, an organization the United States has left. We are making our independent review of the appropriate policy towards South Africa, and so it goes.

Our basic challenge, in working with the United States, is to exercise our independence where we differ, and co-operate effectively when we agree. The contrary temptations are to mute our differences, or to exaggerate them. We would serve everybody badly by pretending to agree with the Americans on everything from Nicaragua to UNESCO. But we also have no need to act as a dyspeptic mother-in-law to the world, hectoring our friends to the delight of our opponents.

To my mind, the most revealing moment of the Quebec Summit occurred on Sunday evening, before the two leaders sang. It was when the orchestra struck the National Anthem deep in the heart of Quebec, and everybody sang, in French and in English, and with the sort of fervour one does not find often, singing our anthem. Some say that not everything at Quebec was spontaneous. Well, that was — spontaneous, genuine, and yet another expression of a Canadian self-confidence which, if encouraged, can enlarge our influence in North America and the world.

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