

Any of the above courses I believe, especially in view of the declared United States policy, would mean the end of the Atlantic alliance we have been building up and which is now our greatest deterrent against aggression. It would also end the move toward European unification, which through these dreary post-war years has been a bright hope for peace and prosperity in free Europe.

We return, then, to the only possible solution in my view, bringing a free Germany into closer association with a group of other free countries in an alliance through which Germany may contribute to collective security, but which will be so constructed that no one member can possibly dominate the others.

Now before I resume my seat, I did indicate that I would say something about the effect of these agreements more particularly on Canadian policy and what, if any, the effect will be on Canadian commitments or obligations in Europe. I should like to apologize for the length of time I am taking.

So far as the NATO resolutions passed last October are concerned, those resolutions have strengthened SACEUR's powers and have increased the mutual inter-dependence of NATO forces. So far as those resolutions are concerned, they will not make any significant change in the position of Canadian forces in Europe, because our forces are already closely integrated with those of other NATO countries. They are subject to the over-all authority of SACEUR in military matters. Their movement in Europe would take place only as part of agreed NATO strategy. Therefore the new arrangements -- and they are outlined in the documents before you -- merely set down in writing and make generally applicable the arrangements by which we are already bound.

With respect to the new territorial commitments involved in the protocol before us on German accession to NATO, the situation so far as Canada is concerned is similar to that which arose in June 1952, when this House approved the NATO protocol extending to all members of the European Defence Community the assistance guarantee of the North Atlantic Treaty. I pointed out in this House then that since the Federal Republic of Germany was the only member of the European Defence Community not a member of NATO the effect of the protocol, if it came into force, would be to extend the obligations which Canada had undertaken under the North Atlantic Treaty to the Federal Republic of Germany.

I emphasized then, as I should mention now, that this extension of our obligations was more theoretical than real, because under article 6 of the North Atlantic Treaty, by which