

Summary of Article on "Canada-U. S. Relations -  
Options for the Future"

The article examines past developments in Canada-U. S. relations, the current state of the relationship and three basic options for the future conduct of Canada-U. S. relations.

THE PAST (Pages 2 to 6)

In the first part, entitled "the Continental Pull", the paper reviews the historical development of the Canada-U.S. relationship with particular emphasis on the period from World War II to the present. This review examines the evolution of interactions between the two countries, and of the "continental pull" in the political, defence, economic and cultural fields. The paper notes that the present shape of the Canada-U. S. relationship was developed during World War II and the post-war era (page 3). This is the era of the "special relationship". Canadian attitudes were heavily influenced by the experience of the war, by the need for U.S. leadership and involvement in international affairs, to reconstruct a peaceful world order, by the Cold War and by the development of international institutions such as the United Nations, NATO, and the expanded Commonwealth. Canada-U.S. ties and Canada's dependence on the United States in the defence, economic, cultural and political spheres increased substantially during this period. This section concludes that:

"On balance, it is apparent that it is in the economic and cultural fields that the North-South pull has been especially strong. This is because advances in communications and modes of production and economic integration favour large units and markets and add to the pull of geography. On the other hand, in