

decisions. But I would think that if the Soviet Union were to develop her naval strength in any very significant way in this theater, in this eventual theater of war, that the opposing force would be more likely to come from the United States than from the United Kingdom or from South Africa.

Q. Sir, how is Canada's position with regard to the European Common Market? Is it different from Australia and New Zealand which are primary producers of wool and foodstuff?

P.M.: It is different from New Zealand to the extent that New Zealand's foreign trade is overwhelmingly dependent on the United Kingdom market because it is mainly agricultural exports. Canada's concern is much broader and wider. It has to do with agricultural products and raw materials, but it has to do a great deal also with processed and manufactured goods which are exchanged between the two countries. Therefore, it is different from New Zealand in two ways: the volume, the percentage of our international trade with Britain is nowhere as important and also the content of it is quite different. But we are not in too different a position from Australia, or from India or Pakistan for that matter, in the sense that we all have a very great common interest in ensuring that the entrance of Britain into the Common Market doesn't lead the world in a direction which would set up hermetically closed trading blocks on the outside of which we would find ourselves. In other words, if the European Common Market should develop into a highly protected Market, we as Canadians, you as Indians, would find ourselves on the outside looking in and we wouldn't be able to defend ourselves—we, because we are a small country and you, because you are a developing one—as well as the United States for instance which is much more self-sufficient. So in that sense, there has been a great deal of discussion between countries like ours and Australia, and New Zealand, in an effort to ensure that if Britain enters the Common Market, as is her right to do of course, that Britain and all the other Common Market countries will, at the same time, take steps towards greater liberalization of trade through a new round of agreements in GATT for instance, and this is the burden of most of our representations in Europe and in the United Kingdom that in the establishment of the Common Market they, at the same time, make sure that they are not

establishing a highly protected block but they are leading the world towards more and more multilateralism and lower and lower trade barriers.

Q. In your discussions with Madame Gandhi, did you discuss the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and did you make any representations that India might reconsider its position?

P.M.: We did talk about the NPT. I think I've lost the exact question you asked—whether we asked the Indian Government to reconsider its position in keeping out of the NPT, was that the question? Yes, I did indicate that Canada hoped that more and more countries would sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty. There was some speculation as to what would happen in years to come with the development of nuclear power in various countries. I cannot say truthfully that I did any more—that as regards the NPT—any more than say that Canada was a signatory to it, that we did stand by our obligations under the NPT, and that in all matters which had to do with proliferation of nuclear arms, we opposed them and that we also stressed the fact that the use of nuclear energy should be peaceful use and in this, of course, the Indian Government has agreed with us. The bilateral agreements we have with India on nuclear energy all are directed towards peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Q. The question is what is Canada's attitude to India's proclaimed desire to explode nuclear devices underground for promoting its economic activity?

P.M.: Well, I am not aware that there is a proclaimed desire of India to explode nuclear devices underground. On the contrary, I have the impression that the Indian Prime Minister left that channel open in the sense, if I understand her correctly, she stated publicly, in Parliament I believe, that one of the reasons why they didn't sign the NPT is that they wanted to leave that channel open, but that there was a lack of technological ability in India and indeed I suppose in most countries to use nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. Our position, as you know, is the one of NPT that there is no distinction between peaceful atomic explosions and nuclear bombs; that the country that develops one has the wherewithal to explode the other, and for that reason, we are against the use of atomic devices for peaceful explosions as it were and we adhere to the NPT trend of think-