

This brings us to sum up the situation as I believe it to be. First and foremost, we desire to live as good neighbours with the United States and to work in equal co-operation with you, not only in solving our own common problems but in solving all problems within our competence in preserving peace in the world. This desire is not one of necessity only, it is an earnest well-founded desire which springs from an admiration of the role which you have been playing in world affairs.

We believe that the strength and freedom of the United Kingdom and Western Europe must be maintained. Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen have been lost in Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Germany, Italy, France, Denmark, Norway and the United Kingdom in two world wars and we want to make sure that these sacrifices are not to be in vain.

We believe that all the evidence shows that the removal of obstacles of trade is one of the most effective means of promoting peace and the imposition of obstacles one of the causes of war. We have consistently favoured a general opening of world markets and have carried this belief into our own national life and have welcomed trade within our borders from abroad.

We strive for peace as an ideal because we, too, are idealists, although not in the grand manner that you are. We are, however, convinced and I think you have been convinced that we cannot keep out of world wars and for that reason we are taking far more responsibility in joint international efforts designed to prevent a war than anyone in Canada thought possible a few years ago. My recollection is that NATO was first suggested in Canada by the present Prime Minister some months before it was broached at the meetings of the United Nations in the fall of 1947. We have been consistent advocates of NATO since. We have been consistent supporters of the resistance to aggression in Korea. The extent of our contribution is, of course, quite small compared to your own but it would be proper to say again that our eyes were not turned to the Far East until the Second World War, whereas you have been preoccupied with the problems of Asia for many years.

Finally, we recognize the United States is giving a leadership at once heartening and effective to all the free peoples in the world. No plan for the resistance of aggression is likely to succeed without your seal of approval. No combination of other democratic countries can provide the means of defence which you can.

Canada is not a great power, nor have we any pretensions that we are, but we have many interests that have to be reconciled and we respectfully suggest that in reconciling them we have evolved a policy which is likely to be an effective means of preserving world peace. A North American nation primarily interested in the defence of Europe, with growing interests in Asia, a close connection with and perhaps even growing leadership in the Commonwealth with interests throughout the whole world, Canada believes that we know something about the relative importance to be given to the difficulties in one country and another. Limited though our numbers may be, our production is third only behind the United States and the United Kingdom - no mean accomplishment for a country of 14 millions, and our contribution to world stability will be effective within the limit of our capabilities.