

products enter duty free. You will therefore understand why the elimination of this tariff is a high priority of the government of Canada.

In expressing our concerns over such matters, let me state that I recognize that other trading partners of Japan may exhibit impatience as they exert pressure to open markets more fully, and more quickly. We are sensitive, however, to the difficult domestic adjustment Japan is undergoing in responding to economic change. Japan has demonstrated it can resolve such challenges, taking into account the interests of all its trading partners. We are confident that this will continue to be Japan's approach.

And we are equally confident that, in responding to pressures from trading partners, your own government will be sensitive to our rights and interests.

Our two countries have chosen to resolve our differences on the basis of measured discussion among the parties directly involved, rather than through more open confrontation. We trust this more measured approach will not place us at a disadvantage as Japan responds to international trade pressures. In my recent meeting with MITI Minister Mitsuzaka, I mentioned our concerns in this regard; and I was pleased by his response.

So these are my personal reflections on our collective Konreiki.

In taking stock, I believe one can see the seeds of a strong and growing relationship into the 21st century. Japanese investment will continue to be welcomed and appreciated in Canada; and the Free Trade Agreement will make us an even more attractive location for North American production; and open trade between our two countries will assist us both, by allowing our private sectors to specialize in fields where they enjoy comparative advantage.

Through mutual respect for our traditions and interests, I believe that both our countries can play a major and constructive role in shaping Asian-Pacific cooperation - and strong, and mutually rewarding business relationships.