

WHAT IS AT ISSUE IS NOT AMERICAN STRENGTH, BUT CANADIAN STRENGTH. IT MAY BE THAT, IN THE FIFTIES AND SIXTIES, CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS HAD CAUSE TO FEAR AMERICAN ABSORPTION. I AM NOT HERE TO ARGUE THE PAST, BUT RATHER TO STATE THE VIEW THAT TODAY'S CANADA IS STRONG ENOUGH -- SURE ENOUGH OF OURSELVES AND OUR IDENTITY -- TO WORK WITHOUT FEAR WITH THE UNITED STATES. THREE WEEKS AGO, IN MOSCOW, I TOLD MR. GROMYKO THAT HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT SHOULD ACCEPT THAT, IN THE NORTHERN HALF OF NORTH AMERICA, THERE ARE TWO STRONG NATIONS, DISTINCT FROM EACH OTHER, BUT WORKING TOGETHER AS FRIENDS. NO ONE YET KNOWS WHAT FORM OUR TRADING RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. WILL ASSUME. BUT THE FOUNDATION WILL BE IN CANADIAN CONFIDENCE, NOT CANADIAN FEAR.

THE IRONY, AND THE EPITAPH, OF THE LAST TEN YEARS IN CANADA IS THAT WHILE OUR COMPETITORS WERE REACHING OUTWARD, WE WERE LOOKING INWARD. WHILE JAPAN, AND KOREA, AND GERMANY, AND FRANCE, DEVELOPED NEW TECHNOLOGIES, WE PATRIATED A CONSTITUTION. WHILE NEWLY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES SOUGHT CAPITAL AND GROWTH, WE ENACTED FIRA AND THE NEP. WE LOST SOME TIME AND SOME ADVANTAGES, AND WE HAVE TO WIN THEM BACK. I AM CONFIDENT WE CAN DO THAT, AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU.