

MR. PRESIDENT, MRS. REAGAN, DEAR FRIENDS.

IN SHARING NORTH AMERICA BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, HISTORY HAS SEALED A PACT OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN US. THE LAWS OF NATURE AND ECONOMICS, OUR MUTUAL SECURITY AND THE MORAL HERITAGE OF OUR PEOPLES PREDESTINE US TO DIALOGUE AND SOLIDARITY. THE COMING TOGETHER OF OUR INTERESTS HAS WOVEN BETWEEN US COUNTLESS STRANDS OF ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE.

YOUR PRESENCE LOOMS SO LARGE IN OUR NATIONAL LIFE THAT IT SOMETIMES RAISES LEGITIMATE CONCERNS ABOUT THE PRESERVATION OF OUR IDENTITY.

INDEPENDENCE DOES NOT NECESSARILY BENEFIT FROM INTERDEPENDENCE.

CANADA, AS AN INDEPENDENT AND SOVEREIGN COUNTRY, WILL ALWAYS ACT TO PROTECT ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ATTEMPTING TO BRING HARMONY TO RELATIONS WITH OUR ALLIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. YOU AND I KNOW, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE CONSTANCY AND DEPTH OF A FRIENDSHIP -- WHETHER BETWEEN TWO MEN OR, EVEN MORE, BETWEEN TWO PEOPLES -- IS MEASURED BY ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND BY ITS ABILITY TO OVERCOME THE OBSTACLES THAT IT ENCOUNTERS IN ITS PATH. OUR FRIENDSHIP TOO HAS TO DEAL WITH SUCH OBSTACLES. THE PROBLEMS WE HAVE TO SOLVE CERTAINLY PUT TO THE TEST THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP THAT WE HAVE ALWAYS HAD.

ON THE OTHER HAND, OUR FRANKNESS AND GOOD WILL, WHICH ARE THE HALLMARKS OF FRIENDSHIP, WILL BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE TO US IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING APPROPRIATE SOLUTIONS.

MY GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO BUILD ON OUR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND OUR COMMON IDEALS.

WE ARE A COUNTRY WHICH HAS NEVER CEASED TO BE VIGILANT IN THE DEFENCE AND PROMOTION OF DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS, AND WHICH WILL NEVER FAIL ANYONE WHO BASES HIS POLICY ON THE PURSUIT OF PEACE.

YES, PEACE AND RESPECT FOR DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS: THESE ARE THE FIELDS IN WHICH WE HOPE TO SEE OUR FRIENDSHIP GROW AND FLOURISH.

OUR MEETINGS MARK A NEW ERA IN RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

WE REPRESENT TWO SOVEREIGN DEMOCRACIES.

OUR PEOPLE SHARE FRIENDSHIPS, INTERESTS AND ASSOCIATIONS WHICH ARE UNMATCHED BY ANY OTHER TWO NATIONS IN HISTORY.