

As the twenty-fifth anniversary year of NATO approached, the U.S. Secretary of State, Dr. Kissinger, delivered a major statement on U.S. foreign policy in April 1973, during which he suggested that a full-scale review of the basic premises for the North Atlantic Treaty was necessary to ensure the continued vitality of the Atlantic partnership. As a result of this initiative, members of NATO agreed that one outcome of such a review might be a Declaration on Atlantic Relations. Negotiations within NATO on such a Declaration extended over a period of months since it early became obvious that positions on many issues differed widely. Despite a series of delays, when a decision was taken by NATO to convene the anniversary meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Ottawa, the Allies agreed that the Declaration should be issued at the conclusion of the meeting in June 1974. A series of last-minute compromises permitted agreement on a final text, which was approved in Ottawa and was signed on June 26 in Brussels by NATO heads of govern-

*Salute on the occasion of the
opening of the June 1974 NATO
meeting in Ottawa.*

NATO Photo