

Visit of President Eisenhower

vigilant in its defence. You and we are alike convinced, by our history, our religious faith and our common heritage of freedom that economic well-being and political liberty both depend upon the efforts of individuals and on their willingness to accept the responsibilities of freedom. Today I assure you once more of the pride and gratification that we of the United States feel in our long and friendly association with you, our sturdy northern neighbour.

We stand together at a pivotal point in history. All that we Canadians and Americans, and those who went before us, have built, all that we believe in, is challenged as it has never been challenged before. The new horizons of competition range from the polar areas, and extend to the infinity of outer space. It is for us, all of us, to bring to the challenge a response worthy of ourselves and of our two nations.

As we do, we shall know the satisfaction of having built, in friendship, a safer and ampler home here on the earth for this generation and those that shall come after us.

I thank you very much for your kind attention.

(Translation):

Hon. Mark Robert Drouin (Speaker of the Senate): Mr. President, it is indeed a privilege to welcome you, on behalf of the Canadian Senate, to a body so dedicated as we are to justice, to freedom and to a belief in Canada's future.

Your presence among us recalls those fine hours when our two peoples made the sacrifices which had to be made if they were to maintain those great ideals which are still, today, as precious to them as they were then. Your visit also focuses attention on the deep feeling of friendship which binds our two countries in these difficult times when it is not easy to draw the dividing line between peace and war.

Our two countries are, so to speak, family relations. We freely refer to you as our cousins to the south, and through the centuries a true family bond has developed between our two peoples. True, we have our occasional squabbles, we have our differences, we disagree; but it amounts to nothing more than the mere family spats such as are likely to occur in the best regulated families. But once we find ourselves faced with a common danger, we are quick to forget these growing pains and, closing ranks, we join forces, and heartened by our bonds of friendship, we confront the enemy; and, with God's help, we have been known to emerge the victors.

Mr. President, you come as the head of a powerful democracy in which the peoples of

the free world have, to a large extent, placed their rightful hopes. This privilege is not without its heavy responsibilities. While you must no doubt, on the one hand, be the guardian of your national interests, your guardianship, on the other hand, of the whole of the free world impels you to have a constant regard for the hopes and the needs of the nations joined in alliance. Never must these hopes and needs be confused, still less brought into conflict; most vital of all, they must be brought ever more closely together and reconciled. This heavy task can only be accomplished through the utmost clarity, impartiality and strength. In you, Mr. President, we find embodied all these qualities, and we beg of you to rest assured of our confidence and understanding.

Yet, despite all the crushing burdens which are your lot, you have accepted to spend a few days in our midst. Undoubtedly you have been struck by the many contrasts of language, tradition and procedure between our two countries. Our political institutions are not built up in the same way; our ties with the nations are not all identical; our individual interests do not necessarily call for a like approach. But you must have found, in Canada, a spirit indistinguishable from that which inspires your own country—that of a free people, vigorous and aware of the paramount importance of moral values.

What we have, through the grace of God, we mean to hold; but no longer can nations do this alone. We feel comforted at the thought that we have the United States as our neighbour, and we are pleased to feel the warmth that comes with the knowledge that we stand together in face of the common danger.

Mr. President, please allow me to express to you, as well as to your charming wife, our hearty congratulations on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of your marriage, and to wish both of you many more happy years together. Your union is symbolic of the bonds of sympathy and of brotherliness which bless the relationship between our two countries.

We are deeply grateful, Mr. President, for the kind words you had for us, and we ask you, on behalf of both the Canadian parliament and the Canadian people, to accept our heartfelt thanks for your visit, and to assure your compatriots of our sincere and loyal friendship.

(Text):

Hon. Roland Michener (Speaker of the House of Commons): Mr. President, the French language as spoken by my colleague of the Senate is so distingué and in this case has