

diminutive because of participation, but rather a mini-summit simply has become part of the jargon.

MR. MacGUIGAN: I can confirm that. That is the term which is very frequently used.

Q. Mr. MacGuigan, this is just... We are well aware of what Canada lost in advance of these set of talks in relation to the fisheries and so forth, and you and Mr. Trudeau have both cited strongly the pipeline, paraphrasing Mr. Reagan's speech in the Garrison and some other subjects like that. But I am not sure if I can see exactly what has changed, what we have actually gained here. For example, the key sentence says that we strongly favour prompt completion of this project based on private financing.

What is different between that and previous positions of the American government?

MR. MacGUIGAN: The difference is that, to the best of my knowledge, this is the first statement of any kind by the U.S. government about the gas pipeline. It is the first assurance that we have received and it is, therefore, a very important one.

That is also true with respect to environmental problems and defense sharing.

We are dealing with a new administration and even if this administration is merely affirming what