

Canada has probably been more noted over the years for its multilateralism than for its bilateralism. We're among the most internationalist nations in the world, and universally recognized as such. We accept the rule of law. We're founding members of the United Nations and of NATO, of the Commonwealth and of La Francophonie, of the OECD and of the GATT. We participate even now in peacekeeping operations. We help to formulate peace plans. We're leaders in development assistance and in disarmament negotiations. This is the great internationalist tradition of Louis St-Laurent, Mike Pearson, Paul Martin and, yes, Roland Mitchener. It is an imperishable part of our heritage, and I'm confident that it will always be zealously maintained by Canadians.

At the present time the Prime Minister and I are engaged in two great initiatives in this tradition: crisis management within the East/West framework, and the North/South dialogue.

Our attempts at crisis management through united action by the West have been manifested with respect to the Afghanistan, Iranian and Polish crises in the past year, and we feel with growing success.

The least successful of these attempts at crisis management, despite our best efforts, was the first, the Afghanistan crisis -- at least, the first for our government; the Iranian was there before but we had more immediately to confront the Afghanistan crisis when we assumed office. There, as you will recall, the West was not really able to agree on united action. We did, of course, do many things in common and that's because we have a lot in common. We could hardly help to do many things in common, because we look at many things the same way. But we didn't really succeed in correlating our policies as we would have wished, especially with respect to the Olympic boycott.

We in Canada, and certainly we in the Canadian Government, take great satisfaction from the fact that whereas other governments -- notably those in Britain and Australia -- were not able to persuade their Olympic committees to follow their advice, in Canada, because of the patriotism of our Olympic committee, we were able to succeed in having them follow our national policy objectives and in boycotting the Olympic Games. In that and in our influence on a number of the other of the 80 countries which eventually boycotted the games, we succeeded partially, but we