duration of measures which might affect Canada.

We would also aim for clear and reciprocal definitions of countervailable financial assistance programs -- subsidies to industry, agriculture and fisheries. In other words, an agreement on better rules to govern trade flows.

Next, to enhance our market access, we would attempt to obtain more open access to the Federal and State procurement markets in the U.S. These are worth upwards of half a trillion dollars a year, and we can certainly compete for some of the business.

We would also seek broad trade liberalization through a package of mutually beneficial reductions in tariff and non-tariff barriers. Not all at once, but over a reasonable period of time -- say ten years -- and accompanied by adequate transition provisions on both sides. Lower barriers, I might add, would give Canadian industry access to lower-cost inputs. That by itself would improve the competitiveness of our economy.

Finally, to enshrine our market access, we would seek a strong dispute settlement mechanism, so as to

neutralize the disparities in size and power and to provide fair, efficient and conclusive solutions to the differences between us, differences that are bound to arise just from the amount of business we do with each other.

And we would put the whole package in the form of a treaty or a Congressional-Executive Agreement, so as to enshrine our mutual obligations and offset the differences in our two systems of government.

Just about a month ago, the Macdonald Commission issued its report on the Canadian economy. The Commission, as you know, called for trade negotiations with the United States as a matter of urgency. But it also called for a posture of permanent vigilance as the negotiations proceed. I can assure you that we will be ever vigilant.

We will not conclude an agreement which diminishes Canadian sovereignty. Our sovereignty is not negotiable. Our cultural integrity is not negotiable. Not now. Not ever.

More specifically, our medicare system and our fundamental social programs are not open for