

NATO discussions welcomed

In the address to the Associated Press last week Dr. Kissinger – inadvertently – underlined the very real significance of this third policy option to Canadians. First let me say that because of our close ties with the United States and the members of the European Economic Community, Canada welcomes wholeheartedly what appears to be a serious and constructive effort by the United States Government to open consultations designed to re-define and revitalize the Atlantic relationship. There are inevitably questions about interpretation and implementation which remain to be answered – but the approach recalls responses to earlier international crossroads: the Atlantic Charter, the Marshall Plan and the Canadian efforts when NATO was born to give the Alliance political and economic as well as military significance. The Canadian Government has underlined on several occasions the inevitable interaction between developments on the economic and political fronts. While we continue to believe that consultations and negotiations on economic issues should take place in the appropriate multilateral bodies, we would agree with Dr. Kissinger that the broader association we have as members of the NATO alliance provides a convenient forum for developing a measure of political understanding on the broader perspectives of our individual national policies. I have myself used the NATO forum on several occasions to make this point. The importance of the trading relations between Europe, Japan, Canada and the U.S.A. as well as the needs of the developing countries, will all be prime issues at the negotiations in the new GATT round starting this year. They will also receive attention in the continuing discussions in the OECD in Paris where the countries mentioned by Dr. Kissinger are well represented. Canada's participation in support for these efforts to liberalize trade has been steadfast and unreserved. We agree that NATO should continue to function as an instrument of collective defence. Like the United States, we see NATO's collective strength and the present situation of strategic parity as opportunities for developing a basis for political *détente* with Eastern Europe.

Thus I can assure our friends to the South that the Canadian Government views Dr. Kissinger's speech in its broad outline as a welcome reaffirmation and redefinition of an outward-looking and responsible American foreign policy.

Where does Canada fit in?

But looking at it from a Canadian perspective, as I must do, there is a potentially disturbing feature, and this may be as much a feature of our polarizing world as of Dr. Kissinger's address. And that is: Where do Canadians fit into the developing pattern? Dr. Kissinger has identified three main power centres in the non-Communist world – the United States, Europe and Japan. While we have no illusions about being declared a fourth power centre we think we have a distinctive contribution to make and we don't want to be polarized around any of the main power centres.

We can take some comfort from the fact that in his speech, Dr. Kissinger called on Canada along with Europe and, ultimately, Japan to join the United States in working out a new Atlantic Charter. To that call I have no hesitation in saying we will respond most willingly, the more so because it is within such a framework that Canada will have the best chance of avoiding polarization and of achieving the diversity in our economic, cultural and political relations that is fundamental to the strengthening of the Canadian identity....

Daily issues

Even with these issues properly identified and policy direction given, decisions have still to be made on the individual questions that present themselves almost daily in relations between Canada and the United States, questions about trade, about exchanges of energy, about cross-border investment, about industrial policy, about broadcasting policy. And as our study of Canada-United States relations points out, that pursuit of the Third Option "does not seek to distort the realities of the Canada-United States relationship of the fundamental community of interest that lies at the root of it...."

Canada-U.S. oil-spill surveillance on the Great Lakes

Aircraft from the Canadian and United States Coast Guards will share oil-surveillance patrols on the Great Lakes this season.

Under the terms of a recent agreement, Canadian aircraft will patrol the shipping-lanes and shorelines of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, while American aircraft will make regular patrols of the upper Great Lakes. All spills in Canadian waters will be reported to Central Region Marine Services Headquarters of the Ministry of Transport in Toronto.

All spills thought to be caused by ships will be investigated by officials from the Ministry of Transport's Oil Pollution Control centres, while those thought to originate on land will be reported to the proper provincial and municipal authorities.

The United States Coast Guard will report all spills in Canadian waters in the Upper Great Lakes to Canadian authorities.

National Arts Centre subject of Belgian TV film

The National Arts Centre for the first time, is the subject of a documentary filmed by a television network from another country.

Radio-Television of Belgium, taking advantage of the visit to Ottawa of the Théâtre national de Belgique, is making a documentary on the NAC under the auspices of the Department of External Affairs.

Mme Jeanine Modave, Chief of the Literary Division of Belgian TV, who is in charge of the program, while in Canada, studied the present situation with regard to cultural activities and bilingualism, concentrating particularly on the national capital region. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation offered the Belgian group technical assistance (technicians, equipment, and the like), and arranged for meetings and interviews with people and organizations outside the National Arts Centre.

The documentary was filmed in the first week of May, when the Théâtre national de Belgique was playing *Vendredi* by Hugo Claus, the outstanding modern Flemish playwright.