

I believe that this trade agreement provides us with a forward-looking bilateral trade arrangement that will lead us into the 21st century on a new path of innovation and prosperity.

The U.S. and Canada are already firmly-established North American partners:

- in NORAD;
- in NATO;
- in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;
- in the International Monetary Fund;
- at the Economic Summits of G-7 countries;
- and many other international organizations.

We are also neighbours in the Pacific Rim with a shared interest in participating more actively in the fast growing, dynamic markets of the countries bordering on this great ocean.

The kind of partnership I am talking about has already brought considerable benefits to the Pacific Northwest of this continent. The Pacific Salmon Commission, which effectively manages the important salmon resource of this region, exemplifies the history of co-operation and mutual benefit that we have enjoyed. The importance both of our communities attach to issues before the Commission demands our continuing effort and commitment.

I might mention that the Commission will be meeting in Portland, Oregon to review the state of the fishery in advance of the 1988 season.

Certainly, the partnership of the U.S. and Canada has enriched the lives and prosperity of both our countries. And, in my opinion, the U.S.-Canada trade agreement is simply the next logical step in further developing this productive partnership.

John F. Kennedy once described Americans as "inventors and builders who build best when called upon to build greatly".

Americans -- and Canadians -- are now being called upon to build greatly. With the completion of a U.S.-Canada trade agreement, we have built a new foundation for our trading relationship. Let's make the most of it.

Thank you.