



CANADA

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

70/24

CANADA AND THE NEW EUROPE

An Address by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, to the Ottawa Rotary Club, December 14, 1970.

Earlier this year, the Government issued a series of booklets called *Foreign Policy for Canadians*. I commend them to your attention....

This series of papers places before the people the results of a fundamental review of Canadian foreign policy, a review designed to ensure that our foreign policy, both in principle and in operation, serves the needs of modern Canada in the modern world. The review calls for an enlargement of Canadian horizons. This enlargement flows from an acceptance of our true position in the western hemisphere, looking westward to the Pacific as we have always looked eastward to Europe, looking northward to the Arctic, and southward not only to the United States but beyond to the Caribbean and Latin America.

These new directions in foreign policy are of importance to all Canadians in terms of the opportunities they offer for diversification of political relations and the broadening of our patterns of trade, both of which strengthen our sovereignty and independence.

The fact remains, however, and the papers make this very clear, that in terms of political relations and trade, Canada's relations with the United States and Western Europe continue to be of first importance.

I have called my remarks this afternoon "Canada and the New Europe", but I shall refer as well to Canada and the United States. The United States has a position of such predominance in world affairs that its policies and activities affect profoundly the policies and activities of all nations.

I have just come back from a trip to Europe, where I visited London, Brussels and The Hague. The purpose of my visits to the British, Belgian and Dutch Governments and to the European Economic Community was to discuss the anticipated enlargement of the Common Market by the entry of Britain and other European Free Trade Area countries and the effects this significant development of the Community might have on Canadian trade with Europe and its impact on international relations.