

- (3) *In relations with the United States*, we base our policies on two convictions. We expect to continue the close association for mutual benefit appropriate to relations with a close friend and ally. At the same time, the nature of that association in any particular field, which will not necessarily remain static, must take into account (a) the necessity for the smaller nation to preserve and develop those unique features of its political and cultural life vital to its existence as a state and (b) the necessity to preserve a freedom for initiative and differing views in world affairs appropriate even in an age of interdependence.

These are very broad assessments of Canadian preoccupations and intentions. I should like to provide a few examples of relevant policy decisions or national concerns.

*Reform, Creativity and Achievement of Consensus*

I assume that some of you are aware of the publication of a set of reports last summer entitled *Foreign Policy for Canadians*. These reports must be seen in the context of a much wider-ranging review of national interests and policies, both in their domestic and foreign applications, which has been going on in recent years in Canada. That broader review is not complete; it cannot be summed up in any one report; the national preoccupations that characterize it go beyond even the far-reaching responsibilities of the Federal Government. I have been marked at times by a mood of exhilaration and confidence as Canadians have considered the 100-year history of the Confederation and looked for new ways to contribute to the development of a world community. It has been marked at times by pessimism, by a feeling of vulnerability in the face of internal tensions and external pressures, which has, I think, surprised people in other countries. They have asked, in effect, vulnerable to what? Surely a country with the degree of military security, economic development and apparent political tranquillity enjoyed by Canada has much less to worry about than many other countries.

This national stocktaking has been stimulated by a number of problems and forces. A new type of self-awareness and a good deal of dissatisfaction among French-speaking Canadians about their position as the minority group in Canadian society have been major forces provoking re-examination of national objectives. One of the political founders of Confederation, Georges Etienne Cartier, said in 1865: "We were of different races, not for the purpose of warring against each other but in order to compete and emulate for the general welfare". Many Canadians would say today of the constitutional arrangements and the political visions of 1867 that they were excellent concepts, imperfectly realized even after 100 years, but still worth using as a basis for reform. No arrangements can be static, of course, for a political community which has attempted the ambitious experiment of holding together two distinct societies in an immense territory within the confines of a state genuinely vulnerable to outside pressures and the policies of others.