

More citizens, commodities and capital cross our frontiers than any other in the world. As traders we purchased from the United States last year \$679 million more than the United States purchased from us. Such an imbalance cannot continue indefinitely.

In the forum of ideas there is a great imbalance, and, despite the marvels of mass media, the story of Canada is not always known or understood.

A Canadian Destiny

The United States has built a great nation, strong, independent and free, on the basis of principles of freedom, of which we are joint heirs. We are building a great nation too. Canadians, while having no intention of forcing the growth of an artificial nationalism divorced from what is best in the rest of the world, are not less determined to create the conditions in which a natural Canadianism will not be submerged but shall survive and flourish. We strive for the preservation of distinctive characteristics and the right to determine Canada's destiny.

As citizens of an independent country with its historic roots and racial characteristics, we can be different from Americans without having differences with Americans.

Some define this attitude as anti-Americanism. We assert that it is not anti-American for Canadians to be concerned about their interests and to insist that they shall not be determined by any other nation, however friendly; that while welcoming American investment, we contend that it is not anti-American for us to ask that United States firms with subsidiaries in Canada should conduct their affairs with due regard to Canadian interests. We believe that it is not anti-American for Canadians to wish to make their decisions in international affairs in Canada's interest rather than to be unquestioning followers of the views of other nations, however friendly.

Canada and Cuba

In this connection I think I should refer to misunderstandings that have arisen over the respective attitudes of the United States and Canada to Cuba.

The Canadian Government is as concerned as any government over the Communistic trends of the Cuban Government. However, Canada, while deploring various actions and practices of the Cuban Government, has not considered such disapproval to constitute a reason for departing from the normal relations which the Canadian Government has endeavoured to maintain with various countries whose philosophies are repugnant to us. The course we follow, I would point out, has been the course followed by all other members of the NATO alliance.