

same reason that we have urged -- and successfully -- that the forthcoming NATO Ministerial Meeting in December should be so arranged as to both precede and follow the Western Summit Meeting between the United Kingdom, United States and France, in consultation with West Germany. This will help to make the NATO Council "the laboratory of the West" in the formulation of Western policies. It is here, too, that Canada will take advantage of the opportunity of having her voice heard in the preparations for summit meetings -- of which there may well be a series.

6. Our Role in United Nations

My sixth picture covers a wider canvas -- in a sense as wide as the world itself -- since it is of our role in the world organization, the United Nations. That organization since its inception has received strong and consistent support from Canada. Certainly the United Nations is not unlimited in its effectiveness and its authority is growing only with painful slowness; but I would remind you that these very limitations arise from the sovereign equality of the member states and from the tensions which prevail in a world divided into ideological camps.

Although it would be unrealistic to believe that the United Nations could achieve solutions to all current international problems, it is equally true that, if the organization should collapse, the world community would have no alternative but to erect a new similar organization in its place. It symbolizes and gives practical effect to mankind's desire for an ordered world and a betterment of international relations and human welfare generally. Without it there would be suspicion, hostility and probably chaos. Canada values highly the obligation and opportunity which United Nations member states have to consult together at regular intervals and to negotiate within the framework of a common objective -- world peace.

Indeed, it is in the United Nations that Canada enjoys one of its greatest opportunities to offer constructive leadership. I have been impressed by the respect we enjoy in that forum as a disinterested middle power. The reasons are not difficult to find; no one fears us because we are without territorial ambitions; no one harbours resentment towards us since we have never held sovereign control of an alien people; no one suspects us of coveting his national resources as we are known to have plenty of our own. We have many close friends through the associations which I have been sketching in my preceding five pictures, and have earned others by gaining a reputation for independent thought and objective judgment on issues that come before the United Nations. We border on three oceans and have an acknowledged interest in the affairs of all continents of the world; notwithstanding a top-notch fighting record in two world wars, we are accepted by all as