



CANADA

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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AUTOMOTIVE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES

Speech by the Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to the Economic Club of Detroit, Montreal, May 15, 1967.

...This year offers a special opportunity for all Canadians to reflect on their country's past, on its achievements, and on its future destiny. In 1867, there were only four provinces; now there are ten, stretching over four thousand miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Two hundred years ago, the French philosopher Voltaire described Canada as "a few acres of snow". Surely, there are few people who would dismiss Canada so lightly today!

It has been said that Canada is bounded on the North by gold, on the West by the East, on the East by history, and on the South by friends. Ever since the founding of the Canadian Confederation in 1867, the fact that Canada is bounded "on the South by friends" has been of immense significance.

The fact that you are all here today is abundant testimony to the friendship which prevails between our two countries, between Americans and Canadians. Our centennial celebrations will be all the more meaningful because they are shared by so many people from outside Canada -- by Americans and by people from many lands around the world.

Expo '67 is both the centre-piece of our centennial celebrations, and a great international occasion.

I am sure that you will find your visit to Expo '67 an exciting and stimulating experience. Perhaps nowhere else is it possible to see such impressive and dramatic evidence of the rapid, scientific and technological changes taking place in our modern world.

This rapid and accelerating pace of change has led to growing interdependence, not only between neighbouring countries such as Canada and the United States but among all countries and continents. Increasingly, people throughout the world are coming to realize that nations are not rivals in their efforts to grow and prosper but necessary partners. This represents a marked change from conceptions that prevailed even a few years ago.