

The President's official visits to Canada have all been occasions for the strengthening of the bonds of friendship between our two countries. Since Mr. Roosevelt's visit in 1938, the area of co-operation between the United States and Canada has been vastly enlarged. The establishment, three years ago, of the Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence gave us machinery for the planning of unified defences for the whole continent. The Hyde Park Declaration marked the beginning of a joint programme of war production which has made North America a single arsenal of freedom. The partnership of our two countries in war has made possible the closest co-ordination of our military action in concert with our other partners in the common struggle.

In Sicily, for the first time in our long history as close neighbours, soldiers of Canada and the United States fought shoulder to shoulder. A combined United States and Canadian armed force has just occupied Kiska in the Aleutians. That operation recalls vividly to all our minds the origins of the joint defence of North America by Canada and the United States. Our joint defence had its beginnings in the historic statement made by President Roosevelt at Queen's University in Kingston on his last official visit to Canada, and in the reply I made, in the