

ment "may be required to take hard decisions in which the other cannot readily concur". In the main, however, we should expect both countries to manage change in a spirit of harmony and without doing unnecessary damage to interests on the other side. Above all, it is in Canada's interest to work closely with a dynamic and outward-looking United States whose influence and the leverage it can bring into play will continue to be critical to the achievement of some of Canada's principal objectives in the international environment.

In the final analysis, harmony is not an extraneous factor in the Canada-United States relationship. It has marked the relationship because it is based on a broad array of shared interests, perceptions and goals. It also reflects the many affinities that have linked Canadians and Americans

traditionally and that continue to link them as members of changing but still broadly compatible societies. What is at issue at the moment is, as someone has aptly defined it, "the optimum range of interdependence" between Canada and the United States. All the evidence suggests that the issue is being reviewed on both sides of the border. But, understandably, it is of immensely greater significance for Canada. If the outcome is a Canada more confident in its identity, stronger in its capacity to satisfy the aspirations of Canadians and better equipped to play its part in the world, it is an outcome that is bound to make Canada a better neighbour and partner of the United States. Above all, it is an outcome that should buttress the continuation of a harmonious relationship between the two countries.