

Recognition and understanding of these differences will help us work out the necessary adjustments to new situations which are developing out of our increasing interdependence. We have to make these adjustments in a way which will recognize on the one hand the terrific responsibilities of the United States and the necessity of maintaining unity in our coalition, and, on the other, that Canada is a free and full member of that coalition, with responsibilities of her own and with the obligation to adopt and express a Canadian point of view when that is called for.

We will need to show sound common sense, mature judgment and understanding of our long-term interests to ensure that this new and complex relationship between two North American powers, one of which is the bulwark of the free world, and both of which occupy a continent now vulnerable to devastating attack, will consolidate and strengthen rather than weaken our good neighbourhood.

This increasing interdependence is not, of course, peculiar to the United States and Canada. It is happening between nations and groups of nations all over the world, and it means a corresponding enlargement in the responsibility of those branches and agencies of government charged with diplomatic negotiations, and a country's external relations. Canadian-American relations is only one of innumerable examples which illustrate this increasing interaction, this growing dependence of each on all; a dependence greatly increased and speeded up by the most far-reaching technological revolution in human history.

One field in which Canadians and Americans are co-operating more closely is the frontier where we face new problems. In most parts of the world the frontier is simply a boundary line between two countries. On this continent we have changed that; even altered the very meaning of the word. For us, the frontier is not a barrier dividing two countries, but the advancing edge of man's development. It means how far we have got to date.

True, in the other sense of the word, frontier, our southern border has its own problems; and its own triumphs. That 4,000 miles of boundary to which so many "unguarded" references are made, is one which we like to think of, not as a barrier that divides, but a line which unites. Some 140,000 persons, on the average, cross it every day, not aware that they have done anything very significant. Surely this is as it should be. But this achievement was not easy or automatic. One of the less pleasant features of the modern world is a tendency, very marked in many regions, for governments to put increasing difficulties in the way of free movement between countries. There are iron curtains and bamboo curtains and curtains of red tape. The tendency to red tape and some limitation in personal movement may be understandable enough, for there is a real threat of subversion through infiltration. Although their power and ubiquity are often over-stressed, there are people who move across boundaries and would destroy democratic institutions and betray free societies if we allowed them to. In these circumstances, it is natural enough that governments should take reasonable care to prevent