

of Asia and, beyond Asia, to Africa and the Middle East where live the peoples upon whose fate and choice the struggle for freedom may ultimately turn. And let us look at the world in which we live and hope to go on living, and at the way of life for which Canadians and Americans alike have always been willing to give up their lives if necessary to defend and preserve it. I was reminded again of this on my visit to your war memorial.

First, if you will, let us consider our mutual hopes for this hemisphere. Stretching virtually from pole to pole, the nations of the western hemisphere are bound together by the laws of economics as well as geography, by a common dedication to freedom as well as a common history of fighting for it. To make this entire area more secure against aggression of all kinds; to defend it against the encroachment of international communism in this hemisphere; and to see our sister states fulfil their hopes and needs for economic and social reform and development, are surely all challenges confronting your nation and deserving of your talents and resources, as well as ours.

To be sure, it would mean an added responsibility, but yours is not a nation that shrinks from responsibility. The hemisphere is a family into which we were born, and we cannot turn our backs to it in time of trouble. Nor can we stand aside from its great adventure of development. I believe that all the free members of the organization of American states would be both heartened and strengthened by any increase in your hemispheric role. Your skills, your resources, your judicious perception at the council table—even when it differs from our own views—are all needed throughout the inter-American community. Your country and mine are partners in North American affairs; can we not become partners in inter-American affairs?

Second, let us consider our mutual hopes for the north Atlantic community. Our NATO alliance is still, as it was when it was founded, the world's greatest bulwark of freedom. But the military balance of power has been changing. Enemy tactics and weaponry have been changing. We can stand still only at our peril.

NATO force structures were originally devised to meet the threat of a massive conventional attack, in a period of western nuclear monopoly. Now, if we are to meet the defence requirements of the 1960's, the NATO countries must push forward simultaneously along two major lines.

First, we must strengthen the conventional capability of our alliance as a matter of the highest priority. To this end we in the United States are taking steps to increase

the strength and mobility of our forces and to modernize their equipment. To the same end, we will maintain our forces now on the European continent, and will increase their conventional capabilities. We look to our NATO allies to assign an equally high priority to this same essential task.

Second, we must make certain that nuclear weapons will continue to be available for the defence of the entire treaty area, and that these weapons are at all times under close and flexible political control that meets the needs of all NATO countries. We are prepared to join our allies in working out suitable arrangements for this purpose.

To make clear our own intentions and commitment, to the defence of the western world, the United States will commit to the NATO command area five—and subsequently still more—Polaris atomic missile submarines, which are defensive weapons, subject to any agreed NATO guidelines on their control and use, and responsive to the needs of all members but still credible in an emergency. Beyond this, we look to the possibility of eventually establishing a NATO sea-borne force which would be truly multilateral in ownership and control, if this should be desired and found feasible by our allies once NATO's non-nuclear goals have been achieved.

Both of these measures—improved conventional forces and increased nuclear forces—are put forward in recognition of the fact that the defence of Europe, and the assurance that can be given to the people of Europe, and the defence of North America, are indivisible; in the hope that no aggressor will mistake our desire for peace with our determination to respond instantly to any attack with whatever force is appropriate, and in the conviction that the time has come for all members of the NATO community to further increase and integrate their respective forces in the NATO command area, co-ordinating and sharing in research, development, production, storage, defence, command and training at all levels of armaments. So let us begin. Our opponents are watching to see if we in the west are divided; they take courage when we are, and we must not let them be deceived or in doubt about our willingness to maintain our own freedom.

Third, let us turn to the less developed nations in the southern half of the globe, those whose struggle to escape the bonds of mass misery appeals to our hearts as well as to our hopes for a free and stable world community. Both your nation and mine have recognized our responsibilities to these new nations. Our people have given generously, though not always effectively. We could not do less, and now we must do more.