



## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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### THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL MEETING

Statement by Mr. L.B. Pearson,  
Secretary of State for External  
Affairs, made in the House of  
Commons on June 5, 1950.

.... With regard to my journey to London, by an unexpected and possibly symbolic coincidence I found myself concerned during that visit with the two most important international political agencies of our day, the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In London I attended the second formal session of the North Atlantic Council. I also had the privilege of an interesting discussion with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who had just completed a series of consultations with the governments of the United Kingdom, the United States, France, and the U.S.S.R.

It is my firm belief, and indeed it is the principle upon which the foreign policy of this government is based, that the North Atlantic Treaty and the United Nations complement each other, that the aims and purposes of the larger body are sustained and strengthened by the smaller, and that the greater security which the members of the North Atlantic community enjoy by reason of their association together contributes materially to the political stability which is essential if problems of international order are to be solved.

The central purpose of the United Nations, security for all states through general collective action and vigorous international policies to remove the causes of war, remains the objective which this government, and I am sure this country, is prepared to support by every possible means. We continue to believe that in the long run lasting peace can be established only on the basis of universal action. We continue to believe also in the urgent necessity of pressing on toward that ideal; of taking advantage of every genuine move which brings it nearer to realization. So in London we began the final communiqué of the North Atlantic Council meeting with this paragraph:

They -

the members of the council

-reaffirmed the adherence of their governments to the principles which inspire the United Nations Charter and their conviction that common action under the treaty is an integral part of the effort which all free nations are making to secure conditions of world peace and human welfare.