

countries which derive historically, economically or politically from Western Europe and North America. We live in an inter-dependent world and ultimately our relations with the Communist world are governed by the general state of East-West relations and particularly by the climate and the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. Because of these facts, it is neither possible nor desirable that our relations with the Communist world should be at wide variance with those of our closest friends and allies.

Yet within these limits there are possibilities open to us which serve our interests and the interests of our allies. There are possibilities for increasing trade in non-strategic goods. There are possibilities for more cultural, scientific and personal contacts which we will also encourage in the firm belief that they will help to break down the barriers of mistrust.

We are far from the point in East-West relations where we can relax our vigilance. We must not be misled by recent developments. The threat of Communism is still great and ever greater if we underestimate its potential. But we must recognize that in all things change is the law of life. Communism itself is undergoing great changes as are relations within the Atlantic community.

Here in Canada we must recognize the changes which are occurring around us, and must formulate policies which will take count of them.

I believe that the next few years will be crucial. If we in the West possess the courage, the resourcefulness and the foresight, if we remain true to our fundamental values and if we proceed forward with a realistic and yet progressive attitude, I have no doubt that future historians will mark our time as one of the great eras of change in history.

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