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that now exist between the nations represented here and those of the Third World.

The efforts we have expended in reaching this agreement have been prodigious. At some moments in the course of negotiations the difficulties appeared so overwhelming and the progress so slow that we may have had reason to believe we carried on our shoulders the weight of the entire world. In a sense we did, for history has shown us that, all too often, strife and disagreement in Europe have spread rapidly to all other areas. Yet, in another sense, such a belief is arrogant. Europe is not the world. Nor are many of our concerns, vital though they may be, the concerns of others. Whatever stability this conference anticipates in Europe will be short-lived if we do not seize the opportunity now offered to us to create elsewhere the conditions necessary to permit standards of living to be raised, to permit the economies of tropical countries to be improved, to ensure that rural development is encouraged and food production is increased, to provide hope for a better future to the hundreds of millions of people outside Europe now existing at the subsistence level.

We have long recognized, and accepted, that Europe is an environment of interdependence. We are only now beginning to realize that the entire world is equally interdependent, incapable of being divided by continent or physical barrier. The security that we have sought in two years of negotiation must now be extended beyond this region. It can be extended, I am confident, because of the dynamic nature of our agreement and of our attitude. This document we are to sign represents our acceptance of the principle of change, of our awareness of the fluidity of the human condition. It is our personal testament to the maturity of the international community. It is, as well, our recognition of man's irrepressible desire to seek starrier heavens in his quest for spiritual fulfilment.

That quest for peace, justice and individual dignity will require of men and women, as it has since ancient times, stamina and firmness of purpose. Yet, in an age as tumultuous and potentially threatening as this, the quest demands of us especially that we be wise, that we avoid the glitter of false promise and the fragility of haphazard arrangements.

In the nuclear age, wisdom is often caution. Our responsibility as leaders is to express caution in the face of our generals and our scientists, who may make to us extended claims of the benefits of nuclear activity both peaceful and otherwise. Should those claims prove illusory, the responsibility will be ours. Unfortunately, few nations now enjoy the benefits of peaceful nuclear knowledge. Even