

as a member of the Commonwealth it is a legitimate comment for me to express the hope that the United Kingdom will not become so preoccupied with the events of Europe, so enmeshed in the new and unavoidable complexities of the world in which we are living, that the Commonwealth, of necessity, will have to take second place or play second fiddle. I realize full well -- and who more than me who must deal with the giant of the United States of America on a day-to-day basis -- that Europe and your relationship with this part of the world is enormously important, but I do hope, as a Commonwealth member, that the United Kingdom can keep both strings to its bow. I believe that is possible. I believe that the United Kingdom can continue to enhance its relationship with the rest of Europe and at the same time can continue to work with us in a more vigorous partnership, and with the other members of the Commonwealth, to employ this unique instrument in the variety of ways that I -- and I am sure you -- see for it, in advancing the cause of peace and security in the world and the preservation and enhancement also of the principles which have brought us all here together today. Thank you very much indeed.

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