

darkest days, and in him the world lost at a critical time a great and a steadfast personality, ever vigilant in the defence of freedom.

And it is of that defence that I am going to speak today. Canada is the one country on the globe which lies between the United States of America on the one hand, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the other hand. What could be more deeply moving today than that this vast assembly should sing your national anthem and God Save the Queen, united as we have been in the darkest days of war? Today we are united at a time when it is so necessary that unity be maintained, realizing as we do something of the danger and the potential danger ahead.

That is one thing which we do not have to establish. The free world knows that there is fear in the hearts of men. We in Canada are a contiguous neighbour of these two countries, the United States and the U.S.S.R. We do not look to the south when we think of threats to peace.

We are joined together, endeavouring to achieve peace through the instrumentality of peaceful negotiations, realizing as rational human beings that we cannot accept as inevitable the thought of a world laid waste by nuclear warfare. On the other hand, we cannot deny that possibility. Contemplate it we must; accept it we cannot. One of the great things about our two nations is this: we realize this fact, as do the nations of the free world both in the Commonwealth and outside, that we must maintain sufficient military strength to deter any aggressor while at the same time, through the medium of diplomacy, we must endeavour to establish, step by step, the necessary foundation of international confidence.

Mutual Need

We have been able to do that. You mentioned, Mr. President, unity. We are joined together to share in co-operation the burden of defence on the North American continent through NORAD. We are joined within the framework of the larger North Atlantic Treaty Organization. We are joined because for the first time in history each is exposed to the possibility of crippling attack.

Canada by herself cannot provide adequate defence in a modern war. Each is needed by the other. Indeed, the United States of America, strong and powerful and carrying a mandate to all parts of the world, the hope of freedom to mankind, cannot on the North American continent defend itself effectively without Canadian co-operation and without defence facilities on Canadian territory. These are basic factors.

But there is more than that to our unity. There is the fact that our close relationship geographically, socially, and ideologically, makes it natural that we should join together,