

AN INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY FOR CANADA IS NOT ONLY A NECESSITY FOR A STRONG AND VITAL COUNTRY, IT ALSO PROVIDES THAT ELEMENT OF CREDIBILITY WHICH GIVES MEANING AND SIGNIFICANCE TO CANADIAN SUPPORT FOR UNITED STATES INITIATIVES IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. IF THE WORLD COMMUNITY TOOK IT AS READ THAT CANADA WOULD ALWAYS AGREE WITH THE UNITED STATES THEN CANADA WOULD BE CAST IN THE ROLE OF A MERE CIPHER AND WE WOULD BE NO GOOD TO ANYONE; LEAST OF ALL OURSELVES.

AND WE MUST BE OURSELVES. DESPITE OUR DEEP AND ABIDING FRIENDSHIP, WE REMAIN TWO DISTINCT PEOPLES, ALIKE WHERE IT COUNTS AND DIFFERENT WHERE IT COUNTS. FOR AMERICA, THERE HAS BEEN THE AGONY OF CIVIL WAR; THE COURAGEOUS ACT, ONE OF THE FINEST IN ALL HISTORY, OF FACING UP TO AN SUBDUING RACIAL INTOLERANCE AND BIGOTRY. THERE HAS BEEN ALSO AMERICA'S REMARKABLE RESURGENCE AFTER THE TRAGEDY OF VIET NAM AND THE RECENT CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS; THE REAFFIRMATION OF THAT MORAL STRENGTH THAT HELPED TO BUILD THE UNITED STATES AND UPON WHICH AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO DRAW IN DIFFICULT AND TRYING TIMES.

FROM OUR SIDE OF THE BORDER, WE CANADIANS HAVE WATCHED THE FASCINATING DRAMA OF A DEVELOPING, EVOLVING AMERICA, SOMETIMES WITH CONCERN, OFTEN WITH ADMIRATION AND EVEN ENVY AND ALWAYS WITH AFFECTION. CANADIANS APPRECIATE THE TERRIBLE BURDEN OF WORLD LEADERSHIP THE UNITED STATES