

As comrades in arms during two world wars and more recently in Korea, as close associates at the United Nations and in NATO, we Canadians know the value of our American friends. Other ties that form the warp and woof of our daily lives - education, trade, investments, personal relations, the press and other means of communication - also bring us together.

This is not to say, however, that Canadian policies and attitudes can be merely a reflection of United States policies and attitudes.

Canada is an independent nation with views and problems of its own, apart from those which it shares in varying degree with its great neighbour.

From our earliest years, there have been problems between us and these have continued down to the present day. Characteristic of our relations also has been a true frankness, the kind of frankness that is possible only between friends. This we cherish, just as we hold to the idea that friendship really means the existence of a positive and effective interest on the part of each nation in the welfare of the other. The United States and Canada, unequal in military and economic force, but equal in their common respect for the dignity of the individual, set a continuing example to the world of how friendly nations can live together.

NATO

Nowhere better than in NATO has the essential solidarity of Canada with the United States and the Western nations been exemplified.

The sole military purpose of NATO is to deter aggression by providing firm evidence that an attack against any member of the Alliance would be quickly and successfully met. The Canadian Government's conviction is that the value remains intact.

We believe that it is incumbent upon us in the organization to exploit without delay the opportunities that exist for closer co-operation among us in the fields of political consultation and of military, economic and scientific affairs.

Underlying the conflict which divides the communist countries from the Western nations today, and that vitiates in some measure the political stability and economic development of the rest of the world, is a problem of faith - faith built on understanding among nations. Every effort must be made to re-establish that faith.