

which is more evident today than at any other time in our history. There is reason for satisfaction that this report provided, perhaps, the basic impetus which has guided us along the path of *détente*.

In our view, co-operation in NATO can extend, and has in fact extended, beyond the security and political fields with which the Alliance is principally identified. This was amply demonstrated in Ottawa last year during the plenary meeting held here of NATO's Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society and it will be demonstrated again in a few weeks time when the NATO Science Committee meets here in this very chamber. In matters of science, technology and the environment, the Alliance has provided opportunities for an exchange of knowledge and expertise which has proved beneficial to all mankind.

Thus, one distinct feature of our Alliance is that it is not simply a group of nations forced together by outward circumstances or by geography. We are neighbours that find cohesion in our common ideals. We can work in harmony because of our dedication to democratic principles. And so, in speaking of this twenty-fifth anniversary year as being the year of the revitalization of the Atlantic Alliance, we should bear in mind the evolution of the activities of our Alliance and its contribution over the past 25 years to improved conditions for all mankind.

Original principles still relevant

For, if we were to examine the activities of our 15 nations since 1949, it would become evident that the principles which guided our nations 25 years ago, have continued in force throughout this period and remain relevant today.

This Atlantic Alliance was created by men possessed of wisdom and tenacity. Their concern a quarter of a century ago was the protection of our way of life from common external threat. Today our civilization faces numerous challenges, some of them unforeseen then by even the most farsighted. It has been our willingness as partners in NATO to face up to these issues of change that has proved the strength of the Alliance. We consider that NATO continues to be a most useful international forum for exchanging and discussing the views of its various members, not only through its structured

organs, but, as well, through its adjunct bodies such as the Atlantic Treaty Association. This Association and the Atlantic Council of Canada enables parliamentarians and academics to involve themselves in foreign affairs and to expand and communicate their knowledge to others, by discussing the vital issues of the day with their counterparts from other NATO countries.

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In a publication of my Department which will be released in a few months, I have included a section on Canada and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. I should like to quote for you the last sentence of that particular section. It reads "The Alliance allows, *and obliges*, Canada to take an active role in European affairs and enunciates the interdependency of Europe and the North American continent". This is one of the realities of which I have just spoken. It is, therefore, more important than ever that we learn to understand one another. The nature of our relations may have changed and evolved, but the interests, the dedication to common objectives and principles, which served as the basis for our Alliance 25 years ago, still exist today and form one basis of our understanding. So if we speak of this year as being one of the revitalization of the Alliance, yes, I agree. Perhaps the Ottawa Declaration has caused us to focus more clearly on these principles because we have re-dedicated ourselves to them. But, I maintain, and I hope that you will agree that the Atlantic Alliance has constantly observed, and I know, will ever continue to dedicate itself to those principles which underlie its basic viability.

Prime Minister to visit Europe

The Prime Minister has announced that at the invitation of the French Government he will make an official visit to Paris on October 21 and 22.

From October 23 to 25, the Prime Minister will be visiting Brussels, where he will be received by the Belgian Prime Minister. He will meet in Brussels with representatives from the Commission of the European Communities, and members of the North Atlantic Council and the Secretary General of NATO.

Bell Canada rate increases

Most of Bell Canada's 4.3 million subscribers in Ontario, Quebec and the Northwest Territories will pay more for their telephone service as a result of a recent decision of the Canadian Transport Commission.

Rate increases effective September 15 include an increase of 10 cents a month in the base rate for individual residential service, an increase of one cent for each minute of overtime on long-distance calls in Ontario and Quebec, an increase of 5.75 per cent in the base rate for business telephones and an increase of 25 per cent in service charges for installing business lines.

A local pay-phone rate of 20 cents was approved but Bell must maintain the 10-cent rate in many locations, such as street locations, subway stations, train and bus stations, hospitals, nursing homes, rooming houses and churches, where low-income people use the phones. A 25-cent charge for local directory assistance, where the number is listed in the directory, was also approved conditionally. Before the directory-assistance charge can be implemented, however, Bell must file for Commission approval details on how it will deal with exemptions for those who are over 65, those with physical disabilities and requests for emergency numbers.

Passenger car sales down

Sales of new passenger cars during the first five months of this year totalled 420,889 units, down 4.1 per cent from 438,688 units during the same period last year. The retail value, however, increased 2.8 per cent to \$1,764 million. A trend away from Japanese and European cars is evident in the sales figures for the early part of this year. While unit sales of cars manufactured in North America increased 3.1 per cent, sales of cars manufactured in Japan declined by 33.6 per cent and those manufactured in Europe declined by 30.5 per cent. The retail value of North American manufactured cars increased 8.1 per cent, while there was a decline of 26.4 per cent for cars manufactured in Japan and 17.6 per cent for those manufactured in Europe.