

# PRESS RELEASE



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TEXT OF MESSAGE BY THE HONOURABLE PAUL MARTIN, SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, IN OBSERVANCE OF BROTHERHOOD WEEK,  
FEBRUARY 21 - 28, 1965

Our efforts to build a more peaceful and more securely ordered world depend, in the final analysis, on better human relations. That, as I see it, is the message which Brotherhood Week is designed to recall to our minds each year.

The concept of brotherhood recognizes the equality of all men regardless of their race, colour or creed. It enjoins respect for human rights and human dignity. But it also calls for a more positive approach to human understanding. For hatred and prejudice, suspicion and intolerance are essentially born of ignorance about our fellow men, about their feelings and their aspirations.

In our contracting world, there is less excuse than there has been at any previous time in our history for a failure in human communication. Not only are we beginning to know more about one another, but we are becoming more aware of the identity of our interests as world citizens. We are coming to recognize that world peace and world prosperity -- which are the twin objectives for which all of us are working -- are indivisible.

But there is a further aspect to the concept of brotherhood and that

is the responsibility we have, each and everyone of us, towards our fellow men. We have recognized this responsibility within the context of our communities and national societies and we are now reaching the stage where this recognition is being increasingly reflected on the international plane. I look upon international cooperation as a natural extension of the concept of brotherhood.

I believe that, as Canadians, we have a special part to play in advancing this broader concept of brotherhood. The qualities of understanding and tolerance which are inherent in that concept are qualities which have been and will continue to be instrumental in helping us to enlarge the dimensions of our national life. It is in this spirit that I would warmly endorse the observance of Brotherhood Week and ask all Canadians to support it in word and in deed.