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## Closing Remarks: Where Do We Go from Here

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## CLOSING REMARKS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

*Henry T. King, Jr.*

This is the time when we look at next year's conference. I sent everybody a proposed conference schedule. The area we thought we would cover is *Canada/U.S. Security and Economy in the North American Context*.

The conference would deal with North American homeland security in the midst of trying to maintain a prosperous economy. Part of the Conference would be discussing the Smart Border Declaration,<sup>1</sup> signed by Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, John Manley. I have listed a number of topics that could be discussed: food safety; technology concerns; bioterrorism; computer and computer communications and other infrastructure security items; threats; border problems; transfer of goods across the border; product standards; transportation aspects (air, rail, truck and marine); business immigration; refugee problems; aspects dealing with the military, export controls and cross-border financial markets; trade effects; privacy concerns; concerns over sovereignty; and, finally a Mexican dimension. What I would like to get is your input on any additional items that could be covered in this conference. It is the perfect topic for us to cover because it is broad scale and we will cover it the way nobody else will.

We have the establishment here to do it. Take a look at it. Julie Kraus up there, she is sitting up there next to Professor Picker, has a copy of the outline. Some of you have already taken the liberty of giving me input. I do not want to trespass on your time too much with a long discussion here today, but I would like to hear from you. I have already asked Mike Cleland, and he said that where security concerns are involved, the environment may be sacrificed, so this is what we are after.

In other words, we will address a new dimension of Canada/U.S context, and we want the look at it not only from the perspective of our present time but for the future. This is what these conferences are all about. So that is my charter to you.

I think we owe much to many with this Conference. First, we owe a debt of gratitude to Professor Sidney Picker. He is the founder of the Institute. We would not be here without him. That is very important. I would like to

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<sup>1</sup> See *The Smart Border Declaration*, at <http://www.canadianembassy.org/border/declaration2-e.asp> (Dec. 12, 2001).

thank our moderators and speakers, who were all excellent. I cannot think of a better group of moderators and speakers than we had here.

I would like also publicly to thank Jon Fried for working with me on the design of the Conference. Basically, I sent Jon an outline, and he critiques it, adds input and helps me get speakers, which I think is very important. He is attending an international finance meeting in Washington this weekend, but he did a wonderful job in working with me.

I am very proud to have Ian Holloway here of the University of Western Ontario Law School; it is our sister law school. And Chi Carmody, who did such a good job of chairing one of our sessions.

From the Canadian Consulate, George Costaris and Mary Lynn Becker are here. John Tennant has also been very supportive.

Our student people have been wonderful: Donovan Steltzner, Julianna Herrick and Chris Rassi. Chris' input will be even more important next year. We never get any coverage in *The Plain Dealer*, but he has done a wonderful job of increasing the outreach of the Institute.

Many thanks also to Andy Dorchak, the research man that I have worked with, and also to David Wright who worked on the sound effects for the meeting, and to our court reporters, who have done such a wonderful job.

There are some special people in the hierarchy. Julie Kraus has led the war; she has been an encouragement to my efforts. She has taken the tensions that a conference like this creates all in stride. There are a lot of things that come up that you cannot anticipate, so, Julie, we owe you a debt of gratitude.

There is another very special person here and it is Dan Ujczko. Dan has been backstopping this conference from start to finish. There is a lot of hectic activity before a conference. One of our leading speakers sent in a draft of a text which was a long text, a sterling piece of work, but I had so much to do that I had to deal with, some speakers backing out – which is not unknown and getting replacements – but I took that text to Dan and within one half hour it was back with critiques. Dan is a very brilliant person and he is very special, so I want to thank you publicly, Dan.

I think this was a success. My rule is to quit while you are ahead and I look forward to seeing you all next year in a conference that I hope will approach this one in depth and impact. It has been pure pleasure from my standpoint and I am happy that we have a big crowd here today to be with us at this final session of the Conference. I try to set this up so as to follow the rule that, although we are all exhausted mentally, we have been stimulated as well. I hope that this conference has added an additional dimension to your knowledge, as we have looked at each of the topics presented in the in-depth lectures and discussions. I think that you also enjoy the networking. I think there is still an advantage to a three-day conference, where you get to know each other, have a few drinks and share memories. Human relationships are

a treasure; there are so many people who are good for handshakes but not for the heart, and I think there is a certain intimacy that this Conference creates an indelible etching on your memory. People do not forget it. There is some advantage in giving something of yourself. The questions have been wonderful. I did not have to worry about stimulating the questions. I have people like Steve Charnovitz, my friend Jim Hickey and my friends upstairs, all of them asking questions. Your participation is what makes the Conference worthwhile.

In other words, we have expanded our horizons here during this single weekend; where else in the world do you get a chance to do that, where you feel a sense of togetherness and where you can speak from the heart and the soul?

Let us quit on a moment of joy. Thank you very much.

