

international interest. All of this would, of course, be without prejudice to any ultimate determination which may be made of any legal questions concerning the Gulf of Aqaba.

I hope, Mr. President, that the agreed solution can be reached along these lines. The alternative to non-agreement is so threatening to peace and security that we are bound to put forward every effort with sincerity and determination and goodwill to reach an honourable, peaceful and agreed settlement.

Two Related Resolutions

After the general debate of January 28 and 29 informal negotiations took place among interested delegations, as a result of which two related resolutions were put forward on February 1 under the joint sponsorship of seven nations—Brazil, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Norway, the USA and Yugoslavia. The first resolution deplored the non-compliance of Israel with earlier United Nations resolutions asking for withdrawal of Israeli forces behind the armistice line and called upon Israel to complete its withdrawal behind the armistice demarcation line "without further delay". The second resolution was in the following terms:

Recognizing that withdrawal by Israel must be followed by action which would assure progress towards the creation of peaceful conditions.

1. Notes with appreciation the Secretary-General's report and the measures therein to be carried out upon Israel's complete withdrawal;

2. Calls upon the Governments of Egypt and Israel scrupulously to observe the provisions of the 1949 Armistice Agreement;

3. Considers that, after full withdrawal of Israel from the Sharm el-Shaikh and Gaza areas, the scrupulous maintenance of the Armistice Agreement requires the placing of the United Nations Emergency Force on the Egyptian-Israeli Armistice Demarcation Line and the implementation of other measures as proposed in the Secretary-General's report, with due regard to the considerations set out therein with a view to assist in achieving situations conducive to the maintenance of peaceful conditions in the area;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the parties concerned, to take steps to carry out these measures and to report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly.

Explains Canada's Position

On the following day, February 2, Mr. Pearson said in explaining Canada's position on the two resolutions:

We have before us, as members know, two draft resolutions: one on the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces and one on arrangements for peace and security in the area to follow such withdrawal.

The Canadian Delegation would have preferred these two draft resolutions to be separate parts of a single draft resolution which could be voted upon separately. Our reason for that view is a simple one. We think that these two matters are interconnected, and what we do about the second will help

or hinder our efforts to bring about effective action in regard to the first—withdrawal. This inter-relationship exists, in our view, not because it will assist Israel in achieving any objective of national policy, but because it will affect the chances of achieving our own objective of peace and security in the area. And that, I take it, is the objective of the Assembly. We do not expect the second draft resolution to result in anything that would not have been desirable if Israeli military action had not taken place.