

conflict, through the establishment of a special United Nations' force large enough to secure and supervise the response to that call. This move of ours, which was predicated on the need to do something quickly which would be immediately both feasible and constructive, had, I know, a considerable influence on the decision of the United Kingdom and France to agree to a cease fire and to undertake to withdraw their forces from the scene of battle. And at the United Nations we are actively concerning ourselves with the need to take advantage of this cease fire and to set in motion procedures by which the absolutely essential political settlement of the Palestine question can be accomplished.

Units of the Canadian contribution to the United Nations' force are ready and the Order-in-Council placing them on active service under U.N. command will be passed and Parliament summoned as soon as we can ascertain from that great Canadian, General Burns, who has been chosen to command this emergency force, what elements he needs and cannot get from other contributors.

This is the fifth time that Canadians individually or collectively as a nation have been called upon to take to the field since the last war in an active manner in the pursuit of the task of maintaining the peace in troubled spots. Canadians have been or are still serving in firstly, the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan; secondly, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine; thirdly, the United Nations Command in Korea; fourthly, the International Supervisory Commission in Indo-China and now the fifth occasion is the International Emergency Force in the Middle East. If there is a lesson, as indeed I think there is, to be drawn from these commitments, which have particularly in one instance resulted in great loss to ourselves in blood and treasure, it is that we, as an adult nation, have not only been willing to make but, even more important, have also generally become recognized as capable of making, a valuable contribution to the cause of peace and moderation in the world community. It would not, I believe, be going too far to suggest that this has been the outcome of the conscious observance of those fundamental principles about which I was just speaking.

The force which we have offered to contribute in the present crisis is not primarily a fighting force but a police force. As such it is not expected to operate as a military force in armed combat against the forces of some other state. Its duty is to secure and supervise the cessation of hostilities involving Israel, Egypt, the United Kingdom and France, not to attempt by feat of arms to force the withdrawal of the armed forces of those countries. It is of a temporary nature, the