

would have been an admission, perhaps a final admission, of its impotence in the prevention or ending of local conflicts.

The problem for the Canadian Delegation in New York, then was whether to join the small minority of members - six - who disapproved United Nations action; or whether to agree with the other 73 that some form of United Nations intervention was justified. We took the latter course, and then tried to ensure as best we could that this intervention would be effective not only for bringing the fighting to an end, but for preventing its renewal and, most important of all, for doing something about the situation that had caused the fighting in the first place.

That situation centres around the Arab-Israeli conflict; and we are not likely to have peace in the Middle East until that conflict can be resolved, or at least reduced.

Its root cause, as I see it, is fear, which breeds distrust, animosity and ultimately clash and conflict. May I quote what I said about this at the UN Assembly last February.

"There has been fear on the one side of extermination by neighbours whose hostility to the creation and continued existence of the State of Israel has been strong and unremitting. It is difficult for people to act with the moderation and restraint through which wisdom expresses itself if they believe that they themselves live in the shadow of destruction and are uncertain about their very survival as a nation.

"The fear from which the people of Israel suffer, the fear which explains the violence of reprisals which they have taken against their neighbours, will be on the way to elimination when the Arab states are willing to recognize Israel as a sovereign state, and its right to national existence within accepted boundaries and under conditions of life tolerable to its people. There were some signs a year ago that we might at least be approaching a time when the Arab states would be willing to grant Israel this recognition. Unfortunately, the events of last autumn have reversed that trend. It must now be one of our major aims to help set again in motion the forces which will lead to the early recognition of Israel in normal terms by its neighbours, and thus to the removal of fear.

"On the other side, however, there is also fear, which has led to extreme policies and to violence. Among the Arab states there is a deep and understandable apprehension that the displacement of population and the political tension already associated with a new state, most of whose citizens have come from abroad, a new state established in the midst of the Arab people, may be followed by still further dislocations owing to the pressure of