

The Canadian position with regard to this statement of Mrs. Meir was that, as we understood them, her assumptions and expectations were reasonable. The United States position, as stated by Ambassador Lodge on March 1, is as follows:

. . . For the most part the declarations constitute, as we understand it, restatements of what has already been said by this Assembly or by the Secretary-General in his reports, of hopes and expectations which seem to us not unreasonable in the light of the prior actions of this Assembly.

This statement of Mr. Lodge was followed by an extremely important communication of March 2 from President Eisenhower to the Prime Minister of Israel which may have been decisive in bringing about the withdrawal. I quote from that letter of President Eisenhower as follows:

It has always been the view of this Government --

That is the Government of the United States.

--that after the withdrawal there should be a united effort by all of the nations to bring about conditions in the area --

That is the Gaza area.

--more stable, more tranquil and more conducive to the general welfare than those which existed heretofore.

Hopes and expectations based thereon were voiced by your foreign minister and others.

Then said President Eisenhower:

I believe that it is reasonable to entertain such hopes and expectations and I want you to know that the United States, as a friend of all of the countries of the area and as a loyal member of the United Nations, will seek that such hopes prove not to be in vain.

That is from President Eisenhower's letter of March 2. Mr. Speaker, those are the views as to what should be done. But the terrific responsibility of putting those views into action has been placed largely on the shoulders of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It is therefore important to try to understand what authority, under the resolutions that we have accepted, the Secretary-General has for that purpose because very much indeed is left to him. We therefore are obliged to fall back on that resolution of February 2 which I have mentioned and leave it to the Secretary-General to interpret that resolution and to implement arrangements based on it. That is going to be difficult for him to do. But if any man can do it, I think it is the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who is a man of devotion, integrity,