

There are certain constructive suggestions that I think Canada should now be endeavouring to place before the United Nations in order that the Middle Eastern situation may be cleaned up once and for all, over a period of time, of course, and peace established in that area. If there is, as we have, a cease-fire and a United Nations force there, then we should endeavour to suggest ways and means to prevent an outbreak in the future.

In the first place, we feel that the unstable conditions which led to the outbreak of fighting between Egypt and Israel are not confined to that section on the borders of Israel. The dangers of a similar outbreak occurring can be found on the frontiers with Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. We believe that some action should be taken now by the United Nations to extend police force action to those areas to provide an effective guarantee against the violation of peace there while a general settlement of the outstanding problems of the area is being arrived at. Let us not again be in the position of sending in a police force to stop the fighting after it has started.

That is the weak position in which we are today. If we had had a United Nations Police Force as was envisaged under the Charter of the United Nations, that police force could have stepped in at any time there appeared to be the possibility of war in any area. We have not that force. We are building up a force now through the Assembly instead of through the Security Council because the Security Council failed to act.

But, we believe that this police force must be followed by some comprehensive economic settlement. A settlement must provide first of all for the recognition by the Arab States, including Egypt, of the state of Israel, and for the signing of a Peace Treaty with Israel under which Israel's borders will be guaranteed. The blockade of Israel should be lifted and free passage through the Canal, when passage is restored, should be available to Israeli shipping. We feel that no solution to the Suez Canal problem can be achieved unless this is done.

We also realize that there are a good many other aspects of the economic situation in the Middle East. Egypt herself, with a population which is underfed and under-privileged, requires help in the irrigation of that area. As a matter of fact, I believe that the United Nations might consider setting up an international authority in agreement with the countries involved such as the Sudan and right down through Ethiopia, Egypt and so on, comparable to the Tennessee Valley Authority in the United States, in order to use the waters of that area for watering the desert and feeding the people of Egypt and the adjacent countryside just in the same way as I believe that, once peace is attained among Israel, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria, a similar authority might be set up to utilize the waters of the Jordan. Those of us