

UNEF is not charged with the basic problems involved in a Middle East settlement. Its tasks are limited to supervising the implementation of the cease-fire, the return of the parties to their October 22 positions and the use of its best efforts to prevent a recurrence of fighting. These will be the tests of UNEF and they will be acid tests. Should the parties to the recent conflict fail to comply with the Security Council resolutions and not allow UNEF to operate effectively, the gleam of hope that the cease-fire and Resolution 338 offer will be threatened with quick extinction. Let us pray that the parties involved will therefore quickly agree to comply with these first steps on the road toward peace.

There is no question that Canadians are desirous of a lasting peace and a lasting settlement in the Middle East and, while it may not be the task of UNEF to promote this settlement, it is still the responsibility of every member of the United Nations to do what it can to help bring about this peace and this settlement. In my statement of October 16, I emphasized that parties to the conflict would first have to agree on the basis of a settlement and terms of reference for such a force for Canada to accept participation in peace-keeping.

Both the Hon. Member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) and the hon. Member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) stressed that our participation could only be undertaken with the consent of the immediate parties involved, and I have dwelt on our efforts to ensure this. I would add that the consent of the parties must be not only to accept the members of the peacekeeping force but also to facilitate its work by complying with the resolution that gave it birth. By their compliance with the Security Council resolutions, the parties will make our task worth while.

There is encouragement in the fact that, for the first time in some 20 years, Israeli and Egyptian generals have met and signed an agreement on some urgent problems of the ceasefire situation. The Governments of Egypt and of Israel displayed wisdom in accepting these arrangements, and I am sure that I speak for all the House when I say that the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Kissinger, deserves high commendation for the effectiveness of his good offices.

We can only hope that these immediate arrangements will lead to further discussions and further agreement.

As I have said, the framework for peace exists in the resolutions adopted by the Security Council. The problem, in our view, has never been so much one of interpretation as of implementation of

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