

properties, has not yet considered itself to be in a position to discharge this obligation, for reasons with which we are all familiar. It is clear that so large a number of refugees - 900,000 - cannot return to their former lands in what is now the State of Israel, whose total population has grown so rapidly that it already presses hard on the available resources to support it. Nor, in all probability, would many refugees desire to live in what would now be to them an alien country. Some such repatriation should be possible, however, as that which would be involved, for example, in the reuniting of families. For the rest, and that means the great bulk of the refugees, resettlement as an international operation, to which Israel, among others, would make a contribution, seems to be the only answer.

I look even further ahead to the day that, with peace established, with boundaries settled, the refugee problem liquidated, provision could be made for the economic development of the whole area, by projects such as the Jordan River scheme, worked out between Israel and its neighbours; and by others in which the international community could assist through the United Nations or otherwise.

First of all, however, there must be a political settlement, a peace settlement. Then, and only then, can the unhappy recent past, so full of strife and conflict, be replaced by a future of peace and progress for Arabs and Jews alike.

Canada must continue to play an active and constructive part to bring this about. Our reward will be the friendship and goodwill of a State whose people have already, by their exertions, their sacrifices and their progressive and democratic ways, earned our own admiration and support.

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