

reassurance as to their capabilities. The people of the region need to know they can count on the prospects of peaceful pursuit of their opportunities, as well as in the preservation of what they most treasure.

For some time Canada has been consulting with leaders in the region and outside, to develop some specific ideas as to how to proceed in the short term and in the long term to encourage real and co-operative security. These ideas represent a contribution we must make, drawn from a perspective that is unreservedly internationalist.

Of course, solutions to conflict have to come from the region. But they need the legitimization of the United Nations, whose business is world peace and security.

This belief in the United Nations may distinguish the Canadian public in its views from public opinion in the U.K., in the U.S., or in France. But we believe the UN -- which is nothing more nor less than its constituent member states -- cannot be used as a way-station of convenience; we need to strengthen it as a matter of permanence. The UN is not an optional extra. It needs a central role in all three phases of reconstruction after the end of hostilities: the disengagement and peacekeeping phase; the recovery from war; and the building of durable peace.

In the short term, there has to be at some point a ceasefire and withdrawal of Iraq's forces from Kuwait. The timing of this is in the hands of Saddam Hussein. There is only one choice: quick and complete withdrawal. It is not clear that this reality has been unequivocally accepted.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Mulroney indicated that we were very grateful to Mr. Gorbachev for his initiative. But we hold the view that satisfaction of UN Security Council resolutions should include elements such as the following:

1. all Iraqi personnel to leave Kuwait within a specified and very short period of time;
2. the disposal of all equipment left behind as a result of compliance with the deadline to be the responsibility of the UN;
3. all weapons of mass destruction to be left behind and to be disposed of under UN auspices;
4. all land mines to be cleared by Iraqi personnel within a reasonable specified time period;