

enforce UN economic sanctions and to provide tangible proof to Saddam Hussein that his occupation of Kuwait must end.

As well, a wide range of diplomatic efforts sought a basis for Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. These diplomatic efforts involved, among others, the United Nations, the Arab League, the Non-Aligned Movement, Arab and other Muslim leaders, and representatives of the five permanent Security Council members, the U.S., France, Britain, the Soviet Union and China. Through these contacts all avenues to peace were explored.

On November 29, the Security Council adopted Resolution 678. This resolution made clear to Saddam Hussein that he must withdraw by January 15 or thereafter face the use of force to remove Iraqi forces from Kuwait. The November 29 resolution gave Saddam Hussein a 48-day "pause for peace." He responded to that UN resolution, as to all the others, by completely rejecting it and continuing to prepare for war.

Every step of the way, Canada has played an active role in seeking a diplomatic solution through the United Nations. For example, when the Prime Minister met President Bush in Kennebunkport last summer, some leading Americans were counselling President Bush immediately to launch a limited attack, a so-called surgical strike. The Prime Minister opposed this and encouraged President Bush to seek a resolution through the UN, through peaceful means if possible.

And, before UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar went to Baghdad in January, Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark met him in New York to put forward a four-point proposal for peace on behalf of the Prime Minister:

- i) an international guarantee from attack of all borders in the Gulf area;
- ii) a process to settle Iraq's differences with Kuwait, for example over oil revenues;
- iii) creation of a peacekeeping force as part of a broader security system for the region; and
- iv) a follow-on process to address other issues in the Middle East.

But, Saddam Hussein's answer to the UN Secretary-General was unchanged. He would not withdraw from Kuwait.

On January 16, with the expiry of the deadline in UN Resolution 678, the coalition forces initiated the liberation of Kuwait from Iraqi occupation. Should the coalition have waited longer and