

In the early months of 1957 we emphasized again and again in this Assembly the vital importance of action to remove the causes of war. When tensions were mounting once more in the Middle East last spring we sought, together with others, to have the Security Council urge restraint on all the parties involved. Now again it is incumbent upon all of us, and particularly the Permanent Members of the Security Council, to make every effort to lay the basis for a long-term settlement.

Speaking at the Fifth Emergency Special Session on June 23 last, I said that in Canada's view "the withdrawal of Israeli forces, vital as it is, must be related to the other basic issues involved." This remains our view. These other issues include: respect for the territorial integrity of all the nations of the area and the ending of claims to belligerency; respect for the rights of all nations to innocent passage through international waterways; justice for the refugees; and arrangements for the preservation of the special spiritual and religious interests in Jerusalem involving, I would hope, some form of international supervision by the United Nations.

The first priority must be to see whether the efforts which were made at the Special Emergency Session in July to work out a resolution combining some or all of these principles can be resumed and carried to a successful conclusion. If an agreement on principles could be reached we should also take the advice of the Secretary-General in the Introduction to his Annual Report and give him an appropriate authorization for the designation of a Special Representative to act as a much-needed channel of communication between the parties and as a reporter and interpreter of the events there for this Organization. Even if it should prove impossible to reach agreement on a statement of principles I believe that the United Nations should nonetheless send out to the area a Special Representative of the Secretary-General without delay with a broad mandate to establish and maintain contacts with all sides and assist in the return of peaceful conditions. His appointment would not be a victory for any party but a genuine demonstration of the responsibility of the United Nations to encourage the peaceful settlement of disputes.

I wish to say a special word about the refugees. The most recent report of the Secretary-General, based on the findings of his representative, brings us once again face to face with our responsibility to preserve and strengthen "the dignity and worth of the human person." His report points to the urgent need for more international assistance