

possibility of a useful role for the Commonwealth, Canada will look at it realistically, but so far we have made no commitments on either of those scores.

I notice that as I talk about these subjects I tend to get into, perhaps, more detail than is necessary and therefore cut down on the amount of time that I want to spend on other subjects of equal and perhaps greater importance. So I will simply say, in terms of the Southern African situation, that we're equally as concerned about what is happening in Namibia. It is clear that it is an illegal régime -- a variety of international bodies have made that conclusion -- and that South Africa is going to have to accept that decision and be governed accordingly.

Similarly, we do not, in Canada -- as to the best of my knowledge does any, certainly any developed country--recognize Transkei and that device and technique now being employed by South Africa as an appropriate, or suitable, or effective answer to apartheid. And so therefore it is not our intention, nor do I expect that it will be, that we will give recognition to Transkei as a full-fledged member of the United Nations.

But as I started to say when I talked about the items that are going to come before the Security Council, you can see, just from some of the things that I've said, that the Southern African situation is going to be one of great intricacy and it's going to call for a great deal of skill and in some respects, perhaps, a great deal of courage, on the part of the members of the Security Council, including Canada.

The second area, of course, where we are deeply concerned, for historical and many other reasons, is the Middle East. I don't think it's any secret that matters in the Middle East, except for the tragedy of Lebanon, have been somewhat quiet in recent months for the very simple reason that all of the parties concerned realized that until there was a resolution of the domestic election in the United States, it was highly unlikely that there would be strong initiatives from that quarter. Now the United States' elections have been held. Fortunately, the situation in Lebanon is stabilized -- for however long of course we do not know -- but it is stabilized and there is some grounds for confidence. Therefore, it is my view that negotiations with regard to a permanent settlement in the Middle East should begin at the earliest possible moment, that the situation that presently exists is one which though, as I said, is quiet now, could erupt once again into a very serious danger not only to the peace of the area but to the peace of the world.

Now, I'm not particularly concerned whether the talks are held in Geneva or somewhere else, but it is my intention to call upon all of the parties -- in my official role -- to resume those talks as quickly as possible, and to commit Canada's best efforts to getting them going in a climate which is best designed to bring about a permanent solution. None of us is so naive as to think that that solution will