

PLO is a body which cannot be trusted to respect a peace settlement with Israel and therefore cannot be an acceptable representative of the Palestinians in negotiations. Such activities tend to create a cycle of violence and counter violence in the area, making it still more difficult for negotiations to take place in an atmosphere free from rancour.

#### The Effect on Lebanon

Israeli actions in South Lebanon either in response to armed Palestinian actions or as pre-emptive strikes against targets in that country also contribute to the cycle of violence. Evidence indicates they cause numerous civilian casualties and thus build up further resentment among the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon as well as among the Lebanese themselves. The Lebanese leaders whom I met were emphatic that the damage inflicted on their country by these actions was out of all proportion to any terrorist activities emanating from Lebanon. I recognize that recently there has been a considerable decline in both PLO and Israeli activities and this is to be welcomed. But if the situation were to deteriorate again we should clearly express our disapproval of the responsible party, whoever that might be.

To assist Lebanon where we can we should continue to give our full support to international efforts, including the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, to return South Lebanon to the authority and control of the Lebanese government. The continuing activity of armed Palestinian groups and of the Israeli supported militias fosters a continuation of uncertainty and tension. So also does the reported arrival of contingents from Iran. We should remain ready to associate ourselves with constructive international efforts to help restore that country's territorial integrity and release its citizens from the hardship and suffering of recent years.

#### Jerusalem

I have not yet commented in this document on the question of Jerusalem. In my interim report I recommended that our Embassy in Israel remain in Tel Aviv pending the resolution of Jerusalem's status as part of a just and lasting comprehensive peace settlement between Israel and her Arab neighbours. Once this is achieved, I said, the Embassy question could be reviewed in light of the provisions made in such a settlement. I now wish to make some comments on the future of Jerusalem in terms of my broader mandate. In brief, it is my view that the future of the City should be resolved by agreement in the course of a negotiated comprehensive peace settlement. I do not believe the future of Jerusalem can be separated from the Arab-Israeli dispute or from Jerusalem's own unique religious status.