

Supply—External Affairs

have witnessed during the past few days. It is the firm intention of the Canadian government to continue its policy and practice of not providing military supplies to the area. The general policy of governments that have practised this concept is not to supply arms in any theatre of conflict.

I need hardly say that the current period of cease fire which we all earnestly and confidently hope will lead to the restoration of calm and a lasting peace is a most crucial one. Circumstances call for the utmost degree of restraint if the efforts of the United Nations are to reach fruition. If we are to make any progress on the basis of what has so far been achieved by the United Nations, all concerned must exercise restraint, refrain from harmful or dangerous statements or actions and we must all demonstrate a readiness to co-operate wholeheartedly toward the attainment of further permanent objectives.

I should like, before I take my seat, to say something about the United Nations emergency force and the future of peace keeping. I have already made a comment on the remarks in this particular subject by the right hon. Leader of the Opposition. I said that I did not regard the forced withdrawal of the UN forces and the forced withdrawal of the Canadian component in any way as a humiliation for this country. It was not because of any weakness in Canadian foreign policy that this developed. I am sure that there will be regret over the withdrawal of the force which, in spite of what the right hon. Leader of the Opposition said this afternoon, served as a great source of pacification.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Lord Caradon said something similar in the security council this afternoon only a few minutes ago.

I am sure that the United Nations will address itself to a form of peace keeping presence, if that is desired by the countries more directly involved. We shall of course do our utmost, as a loyal member of the United Nations, to support such a concept.

I want to make it clear that we are not seeking any additional responsibilities. This country need not be ashamed, as I have already remarked, of its interest in peace keeping and in its contributions to this idea. We supplied in 1949 a component of the United Nations military observer group in India and in Pakistan. In 1954 we provided part of the United Nations truce and supervisory organization, which continues to function as an

observer group. In 1956 we supplied the largest component in the United Nations emergency force in the Middle East. In 1958 we had a large group in the United Nations observer group in Lebanon. In 1960-64, when my right hon. friend was Prime Minister, Canada supplied a substantial group of signallers and technicians to the operations of the United Nations in the Congo. In 1962-63 we were part of the United Nations temporary authority in West New Guinea. In 1963-64, together with Yugoslavia, we composed the United Nations Yemen observation mission. In 1964 we supplied, and continue to supply, in Cyprus the largest unit in the United Nations force in that island. The only two United Nations peace keeping missions in which Canada did not participate were those in Greece in 1947 and Indonesia in 1947-48. Outside of the United Nations, the only peace keeping force as such in which Canada has participated has been the international control commission in Indochina. Our participation in the United Nations force in Korea in 1950-53 can be construed as peace keeping, although obviously this was a special situation.

I think that in the face of this record we, in this house, and the people of this country have no reason to feel humiliated because our force was asked to withdraw peremptorily one week ago last Sunday for reasons that were unjustified and for reasons which, I am sure, the government concerned would now recognize as being unreasonable and based on alleged facts that cannot be substantiated. Of course, we naturally regret—all of us—the developments which led to the withdrawal of the force itself. The tragic outbreak of hostilities which we have witnessed this week following the withdrawal of the force could not have borne more eloquent testimony to the very serious implications of that withdrawal and to the signal contribution made by UNEF for over ten years to the stability of the Middle East.

I want to join with others in paying my tribute to the members of the Canadian Armed Forces who have, over the ten and one half years in UNEF, played such an important role in the service of the United Nations and of peace. It is a fact of the greatest significance that every Canadian soldier who is employed outside this country in the forces of the United Nations is engaged in what I believe is as noble a function for a soldier as any function which could be assigned to him. I want to pay tribute, likewise, to the magnificent job carried out by the Royal Canadian