

can be made towards a settlement of the Middle East dispute if enlightened statesmen transcend what had become an almost all-pervasive distrust and foresake propaganda to work for the common good of their peoples. Despite lingering difficulties, the achievements of Prime Minister Begin and Presidents Sadat and Carter should not be underestimated. The Camp David Accords, for the first time in the too long history of the Arab-Israeli dispute, have opened the way for the achievement of the long sought after goal of peace between Israel and her neighbours. Canada supported and encouraged the negotiating process which resulted in Camp David. We warmly welcomed the Accords and we indicated we would consider seriously a request to make an appropriate Canadian contribution in the implementation of any treaties negotiated. I reiterate this willingness today.

In recent weeks, the expectations of all of us have been disappointed. The hard fact that the peace process may be longer and even more difficult than we had expected has clearly been brought home by the difficulties which have arisen between Egypt and Israel which have postponed the conclusion of a peace treaty between them. There are considerations on both sides that we should not underestimate or attempt to minimize. Instead, we should urge both Israelis and Egyptians to try and understand