

system for collective security will succeed or whether, like the League of Nations in the 1930s, it will fail.

This peacemaking role -- deterring aggression or reversing it where deterrence has failed -- is different from the peacekeeping role -- which involves things like supervising truces. The peacekeeping role was invented by Lester Pearson in 1956 largely because the UN had been unable to carry out its original peacemaking role.

Over the years, peacekeeping has achieved a recognized purpose, to help pick up the pieces once conflict is over. Canada has fulfilled this role with honour and will do so in future, including possibly in the Gulf area. But in the absence of a withdrawal by Saddam Hussein's forces from Kuwait, it is in the peacemaking role, rather than the peacekeeping role, that Canada's support of the United Nations is needed today.

To explain, let me go back to how the current Gulf conflict came about. It arose not on January 16, but on August 2 when Saddam Hussein's armies invaded Kuwait. The UN's role began on the same day, when the Security Council adopted its first resolution on the conflict. That resolution affirmed that the Iraqi invasion was a breach of international peace and security, and demanded that Saddam Hussein immediately and unconditionally withdraw his forces from Kuwait.

Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states, fearing they would be Saddam Hussein's next targets for aggression, called on the U.S. and other states for assistance. By swift and resolute action, the coalition probably stopped further aggression by Saddam Hussein against Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states.

But preventing further aggression was not enough. If collective security under the UN was to have any meaning, Saddam Hussein would have to withdraw from Kuwait. Therefore, on August 6, the Security Council approved a resolution imposing economic sanctions on Iraq and occupied Kuwait.

Subsequently, the Security Council adopted 10 more resolutions including: rejecting Iraq's annexation of Kuwait, demanding release of hostages, condemning Iraqi violations of diplomatic immunity, providing relief for nations experiencing economic problems in implementing sanctions, extending the embargo to air traffic, demanding that Iraq stop deporting Kuwaitis, and reaffirming Iraq's liability for damages caused by its invasion of Kuwait.

Throughout this time, a coalition of international forces was assembling in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states. These coalition forces were to deter any further aggression by Iraq's armies, to