

U.N. relief operation in East Pakistan unless it is co-ordinated with them. A United States vessel carrying relief food aid was damaged near Chalna last week by the guerillas and there were three instances of attack on other types of shipping in that area the week before. This sort of activity, by adding to the suffering of the people and discouraging aid from the international community, can only do damage to the independence movement.

The suggestion that Canada and other donor countries should cut off all aid to Pakistan in an attempt to force the Government there to adopt particular policies for solving their internal problems would not have the results desired. It would only make difficulties for international relief operations and hurt those whom we mean to help. Since the outbreak of hostilities, we have not entered into new development assistance commitments with the Government of Pakistan. Our decision was made on the basis of developmental policy considerations. The drastically altered economic situation has invalidated existing plans and it would be wasteful to go on as if nothing had happened. Canadian technical assistance personnel withdrawn at the time of the original outbreak of violence will return as soon as conditions permit.

For some time we have not been sending arms to any part of the sub-continent, in accordance with established Canadian policy not to ship arms to areas of tension or potential conflict.

The international community has provided an estimated \$214 million for the relief of Pakistani refugees in India bilaterally and through the United Nations. Estimates of relief costs for this year alone vary from \$400 to well over \$600 million. This means that the Government of India will have to bear a considerable burden alone. I should like to pay tribute to the extraordinary and effective efforts made by the Indian Government. The refugee influx, according to Indian estimates, is equal to almost two-thirds of India's annual population growth, and relief expenditures for the refugees will amount to one-fifth of India's annual development budget.

Canada has thus far contributed more than \$4 million to help India to care for the Pakistani refugees and provided approximately \$300,000 worth of air transport for urgently required shelter materials. We are now considering plans for a further contribution. To assist in this, I have asked the President of CIDA to visit the sub-continent this month and report back to me. The Combined Appeal for Pakistani Relief launched in Canada by a number of voluntary organizations earlier this summer has so far raised over \$1,350,000 of its objective of