

but not domination of the European community. We therefore welcome the progress that has been made toward the closer association of Western Germany with the free world, both at the political level and in terms of German participation in European defence. We also share the desire that a satisfactory conclusion of arrangements for a new contractual relationship replacing the present occupation statute should be achieved in the near future in such a manner as to secure the wholehearted co-operation of the German people. Yet it must be recognized that the path towards this goal may not be an easy one and that many difficulties lie ahead. However desirable may be the integration of Western Germany in the European community, we must not forget, nor must the Germans forget, the fact that co-operation involves a sharing of responsibilities and that no encouragement should be given to any tendency in Germany to look upon the present negotiation as an opportunity to obtain unconditional guarantees of German security or to assume that we are willing to pay almost any price for German assistance in the defence of Western Europe, even to the extent of accepting with complacency neo-nazi tendencies.

#### The Middle East

I should like to cross the Mediterranean and say a few words about the Middle East, which is very much on our minds these days, and about which I spoke in a special connection in the House last week. The crisis in Egypt follows close on the heels of another dispute in the Middle East which for a time threatened to erupt into violence and which still smoulders. This Anglo-Iranian oil dispute which had been developing for some time, began its present phase on March 20 with the passage of the oil nationalization law by the Iranian Parliament. It has since witnessed the complete shutdown of the vast Iranian oil industry, the expulsion of all United Kingdom oil personnel from that industry, and a reference of the dispute to the United Nations Security Council, the inconclusive result of which brings little credit to that body.

I do not intend to review in detail, because I have not sufficient time in which to do so, the events which have taken place in Iran, in Egypt and elsewhere throughout the Middle East in recent months; but I should like to refer briefly to some of the forces which are at play behind the present unrest in this strategic Middle East area and to try to place them in perspective against the wider background of the security of the Western world. The Iranian and Egyptian disputes have many elements in common; and indeed there is reason to believe that one is the emotional and possibly the political consequence of the other. Both disputes have been characterized by the unilateral breach of a solemn pledge, thereby injuring the structure of international law. Both have had as their original inspiration the natural and justifiable wish of states which have experienced periods of foreign intervention to assert their right to be masters of their domestic affairs, even if in the pursuit of this understandable objective they may do great damage to their own countries.

What is happening in the Middle East is another manifestation, if a distorted one, of the national awakening which in so many parts of the Middle East has led to revolt against outside influences, which often has very quickly deteriorated from legitimate nationalism to militant xenophobia, and indeed now threatens to upset by force all stability in the Middle East, and possibly also in North Africa.