



that, "to ensure the maintenance of peace and security in the Middle East Region," they would seek the carrying out of the United Nations resolutions concerning Palestine.

Soviet Reaction

Following the accession of the United Kingdom and Pakistan, it remained for Iran to complete geographically the "northern tier" concept of Middle Eastern defence, with her accession to the Pact early in November. The United States welcomed Iran's accession as "a normal development which should promote peace, stability and well-being in the area." However, the Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union greeted the event with a vigorous denunciation of the Baghdad Pact, describing it as "a military alignment which is a tool of certain aggressive circles that are not interested in the strengthening of peace and international security." Mr. Molotov also declared that the Pact had for its objective the retention and restoration of the colonial dependence of the countries of the area. Iran's accession, he said, was incompatible with the interests of strengthening peace and security, and was in contradiction with her "good-neighbourly relations" with the Soviet Union.