

So I venture to repeat that we should without unnecessary delay get on with the business before us, the constitution and the functioning of this Force, which has been made possible by the cessation of hostilities, and with the clearance of the Canal.

The draft resolution to which I am referring, in paragraph 2, "notes with approval the progress so far made by the Secretary-General in connection with arrangements for clearing the Suez Canal as set forth in his report; (A/3386). We cannot make much more progress unless we pass this draft resolution. Then there is paragraph 3, which is as follows:

"Authorizes the Secretary-General to proceed with the exploration of practical arrangements and the negotiation of agreements so that the clearing operations may speedily and effectively be undertaken". That paragraph is, of course, without prejudice to the allocation of costs and, of course, it is without prejudice to the normal procedures of the United Nations in dealing with expenditures.

So I suggest that our immediate task, now that the process of withdrawal has begun, is to back up the Secretary-General in the terrific undertaking we have imposed on him. His industry and his intelligence deserve our full support. We have faith in him, as he has faith in the good faith of those he is dealing with. We hope, therefore, that we can help him with his work, that we can get ahead with that work in this assembly instead of having to listen to long, distorted propaganda diatribes such as the one to which we have just had to listen-- speeches we have already heard three or four times, which do not improve but, indeed, deteriorate with age.

However, this is not a time for recrimination among those who are anxious to get ahead with this work. It is a time for restoration--first, the restoration of the sovereign rights of Egypt over all of its territory by the withdrawal of foreign forces from that Egyptian territory. It is a time for the restoration of free passage for all through the Suez Canal. It is a time, above all, for restoration, not of the situation which because of the failure of all of us at the United Nations and elsewhere has brought about this critical situation, but for the restoration of peace, security and decent conditions of life in an area of the world which has not seen such conditions for many years.

Text of statement issued by the Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the 11th United Nations General Assembly, Mr. L. B. Pearson, on Saturday, November 24 in New York, on an Asian-African resolution calling on France, Israel and the United Kingdom immediately to withdraw their forces from Egypt.

The Canadian Delegation abstained on this resolution for the following reasons:

- (1) Although we support the principle of complete withdrawal of forces from Egyptian territory and have expressed that