

assurances that they will not assert or exercise any belligerent rights in these waters or interfere with navigation in them. And then I think that the Secretary-General, on whom we seem to be placing great burdens of responsibility these days, should be authorized to arrange for a unit or units of the United Nations Emergency Force, after the withdrawal of Israeli forces, to be stationed at some point in the Gulf of Tiran to assist in the establishment and maintenance of peaceful conditions in that area. In this connection, Mr. President, may I quote, because I think that this paragraph is important and I agree with it, what Mr. Lodge said yesterday:

"We believe that it is essential that units of the United Nations Emergency Force be stationed at the Straits of Tiran in order to achieve there the separation of Egyptian and Israeli land and sea forces. This separation is essential until it is clear that the non-exercise of any claimed belligerent rights has established in practice the peaceful conditions which must govern navigation in waters having such an international interest. All of this would, of course, be without prejudice to any ultimate determination which may be made of any legal questions concerning the Gulf of Aqaba."

I hope, Mr. President, that the agreed solution can be reached along these lines. The alternative to non-agreement is so threatening to peace and security that we are bound to put forward every effort with sincerity and determination and goodwill to reach an honourable, peaceful and agreed settlement.

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