

We must not, however, fall victim to exaggerated expectations. There is little point in blaming the UN itself for the sins and omissions of its member states — for the inability of those who wield a veto to agree among themselves. Equally important, we must not lose sight of the significant contributions that the UN has made, and can continue to make, to the maintenance of peace and security.

For example, if and when peaceful solutions do come to the Middle East and Namibia, they will be based squarely upon balanced Security Council resolutions. Resolution 242, passed in 1967, provides for withdrawal from occupied territories and the right of all states in the Middle East, including Israel, to exist in security and peace. This is the basic structure upon which the Egypt-Israel peace treaty was built, and upon which any peace settlement enabling the Palestinian people to achieve their legitimate rights will also have to be based. Resolution 435, passed in 1978, sets out in detail the steps which can lead to a Namibia truly independent of South Africa. Canada remains deeply involved in the efforts of the Secretary-General to implement the UN plan. No other scheme appears feasible and acceptable to the international community.

Canadians continue to serve in UN peacekeeping forces and observer missions that are making positive contributions to stability in the Middle East and Cyprus. We are ready to participate in Namibia to help oversee the independence process and would expand our participation in the Middle East if the conditions for effectiveness were achieved.

Though decolonization is almost complete, we should not overlook the UN's very respectable record in this process, particularly in making it less violent than it might have been.

Finally, we should not dismiss the UN's function as a useful safety valve. Despite the limitations of the UN, I believe the international situation would be infinitely more dangerous without it.

The maintenance of peace and security in the UN system may capture the headlines, but much valuable work goes on in the technical parts of the system.

In 1984 the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) will provide about \$1 billion in technical assistance funds to developing countries of which \$61 million will come from Canada. Other agencies such as the United Nations Children's Fund and the UN Fund for Population Activities also respond effectively to specific development needs. These efforts are of direct relevance to Canada not only because of our humanitarian commitment to the development process, but also because a growing and healthy world economy provides markets for Canadian goods and services.

Despite the Soviet veto in the Security Council, the International Civil Aviation Organization has been able to investigate the Korean Airline disaster and to work towards ways of preventing future recurrences. Due to the work of the World Health Organization in eradicating smallpox Canadians need no longer carry vaccination certificates when they travel abroad.

In human rights the distance still to go should not obscure the steady progress. No longer can a government claim that human rights abuses are solely within its domestic jurisdiction; no longer can it