



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
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THE MIDDLE EAST

Statements on the Middle East situation by Mr. L.B. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs, during the Special Emergency Session of the United Nations General Assembly, November 7, 1956.

1. In explaining Canada's vote in favour of a resolution proposed by 19 Asian-African delegations which affirmed the Assembly's determination to implement its previous resolutions and called for the immediate withdrawal of foreign forces from Egyptian territory, Mr. Pearson said:

"I merely wish to speak for a minute in order to explain the vote of my Delegation on Draft Resolution A/3309. In this connection, my Delegation supports the view which has been expressed by the representative of Peru and others as to the interconnection between the two resolutions which are before us--the close relationship between the two of them--and the impossibility of separating one in its implementation from the other. In that sense we give an interpretation to the word "immediately" which has been given by others as meaning as quickly as possible. In our minds, there is a relationship bearing on this word 'immediately' between the withdrawal of the forces referred to in the Resolution and the arrival and the functioning of the United Nations force".

2. The Assembly also considered a second report by the Secretary-General on the plan for the international United Nations force. Expressing its approval of Mr. Hammarskjold's recommendations in this report, the Assembly established an Advisory Committee composed of representatives of Brazil, Canada, Colombia, India, Iran, Norway and Pakistan, with the Secretary-General as Chairman, to "undertake the development of those aspects of the planning for the force and which are not within the area of responsibility of the Chief of Command." The relevant resolution which had been