

and showed it to the Canadians, to Pearson, and to Belgium and one other country, three countries that were then members of the Security Council. They put forward this resolution and it was adopted on the 16th of November which established the truce lines beyond which the parties should not cross, the truce lines as they were then. That was something that was possible and feasible. There was no way you could pull the troops back unless you were going to have sanctions against them. That was adopted and that eased that whole situation.

JK: Did the Arabs agree to those truce lines?

Epstein: Well, they didn't know how else to handle the situation. I don't know what the vote was. I'm sure they didn't support it. The original resolution called on Israel to withdraw its troops and threatened sanctions. This replaced it. It shouldn't be too difficult to consult the record. The date was November, 1948. That settled the problem of sanctions. It also in effect settled the problem of these truce lines and what would be the lines of the future settlement. When the mediator's report came up for a vote -- I don't remember if it had Bernadotte's signature on it, or not -- the committee recommended support for the mediator's plan with the borders and as I predicted it didn't carry. It was defeated on a tie vote. I'll never forget Sir Harold Bealy was sitting there and turned to his deputy