

to live and prosper, freed from the fear of strangulation by its neighbours, the Arab states also have a right to feel confident that Israel will not attempt to expand its territory at their expense..."

It is, I think, entirely consistent with these views that I have expressed as to the necessity for doing our utmost to remove fear that we should have supported full compliance with the Armistice Agreement which was designed, and rightly, however faulty its execution, to prevent the imposition of the will of one nation on another by force.

At the Assembly, however, we realized that it was not enough merely to say "stop fighting and return to the Armistice arrangements". That alone would have been inadequate to the point of futility.

So we tried to follow up a cease-fire with other constructive ideas. The first was to put a United Nations Emergency Force, organized for the purpose and with adequate authority, into the area of conflict, between the opposing forces; to secure - I emphasize that word secure - and supervise the cease-fire and assist in restoring conditions of quiet. This has been a difficult operation, without precedent to go on, and with differing views on the exact nature and function and control of a Force coming from a number of governments whose views on Middle Eastern matters are not all the same. The Canadian Government believed that this Force should be given the broadest possible authority to carry out its functions. We have refused to agree that any state, even that on whose territory it is operating with the consent of its government, can control it or decide when its task is finished. That is a matter for the United Nations. If it turned out to be otherwise, then this country could surely not continue to participate in it. But this decision is one which we would take with the greatest possible regret, and only if we were forced to do so because we believe in the value of this Force. Elements of it stationed at Sharm al-Shaikh have already had a good effect on preventing interference with shipping in the Straits of Tiran, where there should be no such interference. It is also useful, I think along the demarcation line in preventing incursions, and this should make retaliation unnecessary. It is also strongly represented in the Gaza strip, and arrangements have been made for its activities there of a kind which should help it to keep reasonable peace on the line. Perhaps all these arrangements will not work out satisfactorily, but we must surely give them a chance and make sure that failure will not be our fault.

If the Government of Egypt were to refuse to co-operate in a way to make possible the effective functioning of this Force, which threatens no one and has only one aim, to protect the peace, then that Government would be taking a serious responsibility unto itself and its actions should be challenged and condemned at the United Nations.