



## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

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STATEMENT ON UNEF

Statement on the resolution on the continuance and financing of the United Nations Emergency Force, by Mr. Sidney E. Smith, Secretary of State for External Affairs for Canada, and Chairman of the Canadian Delegation in the Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on November 22, 1957.

Mr. President,

The representatives present at this meeting of the General Assembly need hardly be reminded that, slightly more than a year ago, the Assembly met in emergency session in the face of a dangerous situation which had arisen in the Middle East. For reasons with which we are all familiar, it was --and I emphasize this--it was the Assembly, in which all Member Governments are represented, which bore the brunt of that crisis, that situation which had the gravest implications for the peace of the area and, indeed, of the whole world. Our meeting at this time, however, is not to dwell upon the events of the past but to consider the consequences of one of the important steps which the Assembly took last year, namely, the establishment of the United Nations Emergency Force. That was a decision in which all of us participated.

Since the dark days of November 1956, a great deal has been said and written about the role of UNEF in the Middle East. Members of this Assembly may not then have been wholly in agreement on the principles which should govern the presence and functioning of that Force. But what we are now agreed on, I believe, is that UNEF has made a valuable contribution to the maintenance of quiet and order in the area of its deployment. This, in turn, has done much to allay the anxiety, the fear and the frustration which had produced international tension there. In the introduction to his last annual report to the General Assembly, the Secretary-General has made thoughtful and persuasive comment on the ways in which the Force has continued to serve the cause of peace in the Middle East, and he points out that it has played a pioneering role which has been accompanied by many difficulties.