

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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Middle East

Statement by the Chairman of the Canadian Delegation, Mr. L.B. Pearson, to the Second Meeting of the Emergency Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Saturday, November 3, 1956.

The immediate purpose of our meeting tonight is to bring about as soon as possible a cease-fire and a withdrawal of forces, in the area which we are considering, from contact and from conflict with each other. Our longer-range purpose, which has already been referred to tonight and which may ultimately, in its implications, be even more important, is to find solutions for the problems which, because we have left them unsolved over the years, have finally exploded into this fighting and conflict.

In regard to this longer-range purpose, important resolutions have been submitted this evening by the United States delegation. We value this initiative, and our delegation will give the resolutions the examination which their importance deserves and will, I hope, make its own detailed comments concerning them later.

So far as the first and immediate purpose is concerned, a short time ago the Assembly passed, by a very large majority, a resolution which is now a recommendation of the United Nations General Assembly. And so we must ask ourselves how the United Nations can assist in securing compliance with the terms of that resolution from those who are most immediately concerned and whose compliance is essential if that resolution is to be carried out.

How can we get from them the support and co-operation which is required, and how can we do this quickly?

The representative of India has just read to us, on behalf of a number of delegations, a very important resolution which deals with this matter. In operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of that resolution, certain specific proposals are made with a view to setting up machinery to facilitate compliance with the resolution.