

to the cash contributors. They did not need the \$11 million; and the balance being the equivalent to the cost of clearance will be the subject of action in the General Assembly in the near future, some time around December 9.

Perhaps the best way to indicate the concrete terms by which the secretary general proposes to handle this subject would be to read the final paragraph of a report which he made to the General Assembly and which reads as follows:

After consideration of various possible alternatives for meeting the costs of the operation as reflected in paragraph 41 (of the report), the Secretary General would recommend that, subject to reduction by such resources as might become otherwise available, repayment to contributor countries be effected by means of the application of a surcharge on canal traffic under which arrangement a levy of three per cent on canal tolls would be paid into a special United Nations account, the procedures to govern such payments to be negotiated with the Egyptian government and with the other parties to the payments.

On the basis of the current level of canal traffic it can be estimated that by means of this three per cent increase in tolls there would be paid back within three years the outstanding \$8 million.

There was objection by the countries who are the canal extensively—whose ships use the canal—that they were paying for it. There has been some objection, but it is not unexpected, to put it that way, that this resolution for an increase in tolls will be adopted by the General Assembly. Our obligation is to keep in close touch with the secretary general with a view to the reimbursement of the advances along the lines suggested by him.

I might say from what I have learned of the facts, that the arrangement can be made. It is not easy to establish a procedure for the collection of tolls, or of extra tolls.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions?

Mr. PATTERSON: I have some questions with regard to the refugee problem. Would you prefer to leave that subject until later on?

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): If we could, because I do not have anything specifically in detail about it.

Mr. PATTERSON: I have several questions I would like to ask later on on that matter.

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): Would you make a note of that?

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions? Does that clear up all the suggested questions of Tuesday's meeting?

Mr. PEARSON: No, there were two more.

Mr. KNOWLES (*Winnipeg North Centre*): There were some others.

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): There was a question from the member for Algoma East on disarmament, as I recall it. It was, perhaps, a composite question.

Mr. PEARSON: It was a question on only one aspect of the disarmament problem. I was going to ask your view as to whether the committee of 25, which has now been set up, is likely to perform any useful services in view of the fact that the Russians have announced that they will boycott it and, because of that boycott, it would be impossible to set up a sub-committee of that 25 which would permit, perhaps, more effective work in that smaller group, and whether you have heard anything which would indicate that the Russians may modify their attitude in regard to this boycott.

Mr. SMITH (*Hastings-Frontenac*): I have not heard anything. Of course, the two or three members of the Soviet bloc say that they will not sit on that