

to take that money back and give him gold in return. Law and order would crumble if societies worked that way. It is no different internationally.

Canada, along with its friends and allies, has rejected any linkage that could be called a reward. Of course, there is a difference between a linkage and a consequence. And it has not prejudiced our purpose to offer Hussein assurances that we will not proceed beyond the terms set out by the United Nations.

So it is proper and reasonable to assure Saddam, as the Prime Minister has said, that he will not "be chased down the streets of Baghdad." It is proper and reasonable to assure Saddam that his grievances with Kuwait can be discussed in international fora which exist or could be created, the fora which he ignored in choosing aggression. It is proper to contemplate a peacekeeping force, a force which Canada would support and contribute to if asked.

And it is proper and reasonable to state, as the Security Council already has, that a conference dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict is appropriate and necessary in the future. Canada has repeatedly stated -- long before Saddam invaded Kuwait and discovered the Palestinian issue as a scapegoat -- that a Middle East peace conference was welcome if properly structured, to facilitate negotiations between the parties directly concerned. Canada has always favoured a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement based on Resolutions 242 and 338. The invasion of Kuwait, together with the worrisome lack of progress towards a settlement, make peace in the Middle East more necessary than ever, if only to stop Hussein or others from using that excuse to legitimize oppression and sow discord. The consensus which exists today at the UN may allow us to address those urgent problems. If that consensus fails, and Iraq continues its occupation, those problems will be even more difficult to deal with than they are today.

That is not linkage. That is a consequence just as another consequence must be a concerted effort to manage the proliferation and accumulation of weapons throughout the Middle East region, weapons which helped give Hussein the confidence to invade.

I want to conclude by returning to the fundamental principle at issue here: the defence and construction of a durable structure of international order. That is not a foreign cause or a fake cause. That is a Canadian cause. That is a cause worth defending. We are not a great power. We cannot impose order or ignore it. We have no choice but to build it with others -- co-operatively.