

emergencies? A vision-oriented, ongoing cumulative development process that builds on and beyond the foundation provided by existing arrangements toward the objective of a composite UN Standing Emergency Capability is feasible.

Hopefully, this report will stimulate further thought and supportive effort. It is not intended to preclude the pursuit of more ambitious arrangements should the political context change. As previously noted, there have been occasions when the necessary consensus was close at hand. The challenge remains, as does the need. There has also been modest progress since William R. Frye made the case for a planned evolution in his seminal 1957 study, A United Nations Peace Force. Whether the appropriate lessons have been learned or spurned will now depend on the extent to which there are further ambitious efforts from interested parties, here and abroad. We have yet to achieve Frye's objective, but it is worth recalling his words:

Establishment of a small, permanent peace force, or the machinery for one, could be the first step on the long road toward order and stability. Progress cannot be forced, but it can be helped to evolve. That which is radical one year can become conservative and accepted the next.¹¹⁹

There are promising options and, with further co-operation, we can do better.

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