

But behind the Armistice Agreement, there is something even more fundamental, namely, the absolute necessity of the admission by Israel's neighbours, openly and sincerely, of her right to an honourable and secure national existence. Without this, how can there possibly be peace in the area? I would like to see that right confirmed by formal statements by every member of the United Nations, which would ensure also Israel's full right to protection, under the Charter, against aggression. Without some such assurances, how can the fears of the people of Israel be set at rest? And with those fears, how can there ever be peace? In this connection, may I quote what I said at the United Nations Assembly last February:

"The problem is basically one of fear, which breeds distrust and animosity and conflict. There has been fear on Israel's side of extermination by neighbours whose hostility to the creation and continued existence of their State has been strong and unremitting. It is difficult for people to act with the moderation and restraint through which wisdom expresses itself if they believe that they themselves live in the shadow of destruction and are uncertain about their very survival as a nation.

"The fear from which the people of Israel suffer, the fear which explains the violence of reprisals which they have taken against their neighbours, will be on the way to elimination when the Arab states are willing to recognize Israel as a sovereign state, and its right to national existence within accepted boundaries and under conditions of life tolerable to its people.

There is, however, a reciprocal step to be taken. Israel should reaffirm her determination to do whatever she can to remove the fears of her neighbours that Israel's existence is bound to mean expansion at their expense.

Again may I quote what I said at the UN Assembly in February.

"On the other side, however, there is also fear, which has led to extreme policies and to violence. Among the Arab states there is a deep and understandable apprehension that the displacement of population and the political tension already associated with a new state, most of whose citizens have come from abroad, a new state established in the midst of the Arab people may be followed by still further dislocations owing to the pressure of immigration into Israel, backed as that state is by strong international pressures and international resources. There is a fear that Israel will yield to expansionist ambitions, which is the counterpart of Israel's own fear of Arab intentions. This has bred in the Arab world animosity and violence toward Israel. When that fear is dissipated we may count on moderation in the attitude of Israel's neighbours toward that state. We cannot but agree that if Israel has a right