

to the United Nations operations both in the Congo and in the Middle East. As we know, member states provide troops to the UN on the understanding that they will be reimbursed by the UN for any extra pay and allowances paid to troops for serving abroad. Since, unlike the troops of some other nationalities, Canadian troops receive only a small overseas allowance, --\$20 per man per month I believe--the Canadian Government would stand to receive little reimbursement from the UN in respect of extra pay and allowances. Canada did, however, provide equipment to UNEF on the clear understanding that the UN would provide some reimbursement. Unfortunately, the UN has never been in a position to honour this commitment because of the precarious state of the UNEF special account to which so many member states have failed to contribute. The Canadian Government has nevertheless continued to pay its full cash assessment to UNEF and it has not availed itself of rebates made possible by voluntary contributions. Moreover, Canada agreed to provide air transport services for the Congo when requested by the Secretary General, on the understanding that the UN would provide suitable reimbursement.

The Canadian Delegation believes that the record of Canadian contributions to UN peace-keeping operations has been respectable. We have provided concrete evidence of our strongly-held and long-standing belief in the need for Middle and Small Powers to uphold the ability of the UN to maintain international peace and security. Now the Canadian Delegation has received strong appeals from many quarters to do more.

I am happy to announce that my government, after careful consideration, has decided to respond to these appeals in the expectation that this response will encourage other Middle and Small Powers to demonstrate, by their decisions during this debate, that they also have faith in the future of this organization. The Canadian Government is prepared to offer to forego its claims on the organization for the costs of certain air transport facilities provided to move troops into the Congo. These costs amount to about \$650,000 which is a significant sum for a country of our size. This offer is made on the assumption that the General Assembly will continue to regard such cost estimates as are now before it as expenses of the organization under Article 17.

(I would like to say at this point Mr. Chairman, that in view of this organization's present acute shortage of cash, my Government would be prepared to give immediate consideration to any request by the Secretary-General