

Organization in Palestine, and now in the Observation Group in Lebanon. It is no more than a coincidence that three of these efforts in which Canada has found itself involved under the aegis of the United Nations are in the Middle East, a region in which we otherwise would have no more direct interest than that which flows from the normal cultural and commercial intercourse between nations. But as a middle Power we do, however, have a very direct interest in the preservation of international peace and the promotion of understanding among nations, and it is as a manifestation of that interest that Canada has men in the Middle East participating in UNEF, in UNTSO, and now in UNOGIL.

The Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, at this emergency session of the General Assembly, has endorsed the suggestion that a "stand-by United Nations peace force" should be created to make possible quick action in an emergency, and he has referred to the studies which the Secretary-General has been conducting. This important matter will require most careful study. I have been somewhat disturbed in the last day or two to hear from some of my fellow representatives that there is a set plan in that regard. I repeat what I have just said: It requires the most careful study. The experience of the past has shown that United Nations requirements can involve a wide variety of types of service, none of which may offer an exact precedent for a more permanent type of stand-by force. The further examination of alternative possibilities will be greatly assisted by the report which the Secretary-General will make to the thirteenth session of the General Assembly next month.

Although the immediate situation with which we are faced may well not require the kind of action for which a stand-by force may be designed, it will give, I pray, renewed impetus towards the creation of such an instrumentality, an objective which was clearly in the minds of the authors of the Charter in 1945, and which we would do well to explore further at a moment when the role of the United Nations as a peace-preserving body is once more uppermost in our minds. Despite the darkness of this crisis, yet there are lessons to be learned from it. May we profit from those lessons and let us not forget these lessons.

There is a third long-term objective that we hope to see result directly or indirectly from our present deliberations. This objective is not to be found in the draft resolution. I refer to Canada's hope that there could be laid a network of interlocking non-aggression agreements in the Middle East region, which could guarantee the independence and the integrity of each and all of the States of the area, and thus provide a solid basis for the