

*The Address—Mr. Knowles*

the United Nations should move in with a police force before trouble happens, rather than after, between Israel and the bordering countries of Lebanon, Syria and Jordan, so that the peace of the world may be saved even before it is broken further at this time.

I hope that because of the gravity of the present situation our insistence that this be done will be given greater attention by the government than was our urging last January that an international police force be put in between Israel and Egypt.

I would remind the house as well of the points made by those who have spoken already on behalf of this group, that real and serious consideration must be given to the solving of the social and economic problems which obtain in the Middle East, such as the resettlement of the refugees and other issues. These problems simply must be solved. We know that the problem of the refugees, the problem of a political settlement and the other economic problems, such as the raising of the standards of living in that area, the settlement of the Suez canal issue and others, all hang together. That is why we advocate most strongly something in the nature of an international T.V.A. on the Nile river to develop the Aswan dam and generally bring about an improved use of the waters of the Nile so as to increase the standards of living of the people in that country. That is why we also advocate something in the nature of an international oil authority so that the tremendous resources of oil to be found in that part of the world, oil which the rest of the world needs and wants and is willing to pay for, may bring back to the people in that area something in the way of increased and improved living standards.

We say there should be a political settlement. We say the problem of the refugees should be solved. But we say also you are not going to solve these problems until you improve economic conditions. This is a package deal. These matters all hang together. Because these other things are important in the achieving of a political settlement we urge the Secretary of State for External Affairs when he gets back to New York, back to the United Nations, which I hope will be soon, to put the same vigour into an attack on these problems which he put into his efforts to get an international police force set up and moved into that part of the world at this time.

We feel also that at this time when the world has accepted with some sense of satisfaction the idea of an emergency force being organized, further efforts should be made to get a permanent international police force established. My hon. friends to the left

seem to be concerned lest such a police force be made up of national components which would be beyond the immediate control of the nations concerned. That as a matter of fact was a problem which was thrashed out at the time of the San Francisco conference, and I do not think there is any question that it can be solved.

Even if you do have to have some sort of continuing national control over the various component parts, what we should have in existence is an international police force which would be ready to move whenever there was trouble, rather than have to go through this procedure of setting up an emergency force every time something like that occurs. I am reminded of a speech made by the hon. member for Prince Albert, I think in 1945 just prior to the time of the San Francisco conference, when he referred to the strategic position of Canada's airfields and suggested that we should make our air bases available to the United Nations so that United Nations troops could be stationed at our airfields in Canada and moved quickly to any spot in the world where trouble might break out.

That was an idealistic expression with which I agreed at the time and with which I still agree. In fact we are fast getting to the point—this is the view of this group—where we do need a police force, not one to be got together after trouble has broken out but one available, on the job and ready to move in whenever the United Nations decides that trouble has broken out or may develop. I submit that such a force would not only be able to deal with trouble when it broke out but the very fact that there was such a force ready to move would in many instances prevent trouble breaking out at all.

So we urge upon the government that the Secretary of State for External Affairs be sent back to New York just as soon as possible to go to work on these items of unfinished business which are just as important as the job which has been done already in getting an emergency force set up and sent to the Middle East.

When we get into committee of supply, which we hope will be soon, there are a few questions we would like to ask the government. Since there has been this delay perhaps I might state two or three of them now so the answers can be prepared and given to us when the time comes. We are interested in the fact that although it is obviously going to cost many millions of dollars for Canada to send this force to the Middle East, we are being asked to vote toward that purpose only the sum of one dollar. I know what a dollar item is, it is a matter of legislation.