

But when a resolution deals with a matter on which action has begun in compliance with a former resolution, and when that compliance is under United Nations supervision, then I do not think, myself, that reference to the former resolution is positively helpful in achieving the objective which we have in mind. Indeed, it often merely takes up the time of the Assembly which, as in this case, could be surely used for the task of bringing about a settlement, the creation of an atmosphere within which progress could be made to such a settlement, and expediting the solution of practical problems, such as the clearing of the Suez Canal and the maintenance there of freedom and security for navigation for all countries.

It seems to me that the draft resolution which we have the honour to sponsor with other delegations (A/3386) is designed for this purpose. It "notes with approval the contents of the aide-memoire on the basis for the presence and functioning of the United Nations Emergency Force in Egypt, as annexed to the report of the Secretary-General"--and I hope that we can give that approval to the aide-memoire. It is important, however, in giving that approval, to know what we are approving.

What are the functions of this United Nations Emergency Force? Those functions and the task--and it is a very difficult task indeed which confronts the Force--have been laid down by resolutions of the General Assembly and they are found also in the Secretary-General's second and final report, which has been approved by the Assembly. The basic resolution for these purposes is that which we adopted on November 4-5 (A/RES/394) which states that the function of this Force is "to secure and supervise the cessation of hostilities in accordance with all"--and I emphasize the word "all"--"the terms of the resolution of the General Assembly of November 2" (A/RES/390). In that latter resolution, as representatives will remember, provision is made for a cease-fire, for a prompt withdrawal of forces, and also--and this is not the time to forget this provision--"that all member states refrain from introducing military goods in the area of hostilities and in general refrain from any acts which would delay or prevent the implementation of the present resolution". And in Para. 4 of that resolution we have this provision, namely, that upon a cease-fire, steps are to be taken to reopen the Suez Canal and restore secure freedom of navigation.

Later, by Resolution A/RES/395 of November 7, the Assembly approved certain principles for the organization and functioning of the United Nations Emergency Force and those principles were stated in certain paragraph of the Secretary-General's report (A/3302) which was attached to the resolution.

There is very strong, enthusiastic support in my country for this force--but only as a United Nations force, under United Nations control, and as an effective and organized force which can do the job that has been given to it and which, if it can do that job, may be the beginning of something bigger and more permanent in the history of our organization: something which we have talked about at United Nations meetings for many years,