

SERVICE. SUCH ASSISTANCE IS SOMETIMES A DETERMINING FACTOR IN DEVELOPING BUSINESS CONTACTS, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE COUNTRIES THAT DEAL THROUGH THE EXCLUSIVE CHANNEL OF GOVERNMENT PURCHASING AGENCIES.

THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY HAS ONLY RECENTLY BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT AS A RESULT OF DIRECTIVES ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE. I AM HAPPY TO REPORT, HOWEVER, THAT PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS FROM OFFICIALS OF THAT DEPARTMENT ARE THAT CANADIAN BUSINESSMEN ARE ANXIOUS TO ADHERE TO THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY AND ARE SEEKING THE ADVICE OF OFFICIALS IN THE EFFORT TO AVOID ANY COMPLIANCE WITH THE KIND OF BOYCOTT CLAUSE THAT WE CONSIDER OBJECTIONABLE AND AGAINST WHICH OUR POLICY HAS BEEN DESIGNED.

BUT THE ARAB BOYCOTT AGAINST ISRAEL IS ONLY PART OF THE LARGER PROBLEM -- THE THIRTY YEAR WAR THAT HAS GONE ON, HOT AND COLD BY TURNS, BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ITS NEIGHBOURS. I DO NOT HAVE TO TELL YOU HOW ISRAEL NEEDS AND LONGS FOR PEACE AND SOLID RECOGNITION OF ITS LEGITIMATE PLACE IN THE AREA FROM ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD, BUT PARTICULARLY FROM THE ARAB COUNTRIES THAT SURROUND IT ON ALL SIDES.

WHO CAN DOUBT THAT THE ARAB COUNTRIES ALSO NEED PEACE, THE LACK OF WHICH CONTINUES TO HOLD BACK THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE AREA? FOR THE REST OF US, A MIDDLE EAST ALWAYS ON THE EDGE OF WAR POSES A CONTINUING AND SERIOUS THREAT OF A WIDER CONFLAGRATION. THE WORLD CANNOT AFFORD ANOTHER ARAB-ISRAELI WAR, BUT THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT THE WORLD IS LIKELY TO GET UNLESS A WAY CAN BE FOUND TO BRING ABOUT ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE.

BUT SUCH A PEACE CANNOT BE AT THE EXPENSE OF ISRAEL'S SURVIVAL. ANYONE WHO HAS VISITED ISRAEL AS I, LIKE MANY OF YOU, HAVE DONE TAKES BACK WITH HIM A VIVID IMPRESSION OF ISRAELI GEOGRAPHY AND PHYSICAL VULNERABILITY.

THE TREMENDOUS ACHIEVEMENTS IN EVERY AREA OF HUMAN ENDEAVOUR WHICH SO IMPRESS A VISITOR TO ISRAEL TAKE ON A NEW DIMENSION WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THAT MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO BROUGHT THEM ABOUT HAD TO OPERATE UNDER STRINGENT SECURITY MEASURES AND UNDER THE PRESSURE OF DAILY TENSION. WHAT COURAGE! WHAT WILL TO SUCCEED AGAINST FRIGHTFUL ODDS! KNOWING HOW THE COUNTRY OF ISRAEL WAS BORN, IT IS NOT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THE DEPTH AND INTENSITY OF ISRAELI CONCERN TO ENSURE THAT A PEACE SETTLEMENT REALLY DOES PROVIDE THEM WITH THE SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BORDERS THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL CALLED FOR ALMOST TEN YEARS AGO.

OUR ULTIMATE GOAL IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS THE SAME AS ISRAEL'S -- A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN WHICH THE WHOLE REGION CAN FLOURISH AND PROSPER TO THE BENEFIT OF US ALL.