

SYRIAN SITUATION

Apart from disarmament there was consideration of political crises. One had to do particularly with Syria. The Syrians lodged a resolution with the Secretary-General that would provide for a discussion of the threat to their security on the Syrian-Turkish border. Several efforts were made toward negotiation in that regard.... Our approach to that problem was that any nation such as Syria should have the opportunity to bring before the General Assembly what it thought was a threat to its security. That did not in any way indicate that we had in mind that Turkey, as a responsible member of NATO, would act in an irresponsible way. But we endeavoured to provide every possible way of finding out the facts.

Hon. members may recall that King Saud of Saudi Arabia offered to intervene and mediate, and there were suggestions that the Security Council might come into the picture. In association with Japan, Denmark, Norway, Paraguay, Peru and Spain we put forward a resolution that would call attention to the availability of the Secretary-General for consultation between Syria and Turkey, or even the availability of the Secretary-General to carry on an investigation; and then rather dramatically Syria and Turkey decided that the debate should be terminated.

I said it was dramatic, but it was not very spectacular. I do not think the press gave it enough publicity. It really was a product of what the Secretary-General of the United Nations has said of the United Nations "diplomacy of reconciliation". There in the General Assembly these charges and counter-charges were exchanged, and it was undoubtedly felt by the U.S.S.R. that it was losing the battle of polemics and that its propaganda concepts and objectives were being turned against it. That was indeed a victory for the United Nations and for the participation of the nations of the world in that debate in the General Assembly.

It would be an illusion, Mr. Speaker, to think that the underlying causes of tension in that area, and the fever and the rise in tempers are gone. We would all hope that the diplomacy, the reconciliation which was provided by the United Nations could be again brought to bear....

UNEF

I now desire to say something about the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East.... I can say that the record of UNEF, the United Nations Emergency Force, has been one of great satisfaction not only to the UN but to the world. There have been on the border few incidents in recent months. Indeed, I was talking to Major General Burns and he told me that in the last few weeks there have not been any incidents on that border. Undoubtedly UNEF contributed at least to