

we want to arm the UN in such a massive way? We are after answers which work -- for the region and for the UN.

The foreign ministers of Arab countries I have spoken with say that such a force could, however, be supplemented by traditional peacekeeping forces from outside the region. If so, Canada may be willing to play whatever role is useful.

In a still longer term, the inviolability of borders will have to be assured. As we have learned in the past, peacekeeping forces alone may not be enough. An interlocking series of mutual self-defence understandings will probably be necessary and their viability could obviate the need for future assurances of protection from elsewhere.

We hope we have seen the end of the East-West rivalry in the region. With the Cold War over, there should be no further need to arm surrogates to the teeth to promote or preserve the interests of East or West. Those interests should now coincide, which should leave the region freer to pursue its own interests which, surely, must be based upon a far greater degree of stability and security.

The sharpest threat to stability in the Middle East is coming from the Arab-Israeli conflict. It must be addressed forcefully and fully by all countries in the region and by those outside with influence and obligations.

Here, too, the decline of superpower rivalry can be of great help.

Israel needs security.

The Palestinians need justice.

Resolutions 242 and 338 of the Security Council need implementation, at last.

We reject the spurious parallels Saddam Hussein has drawn between his aggression against Kuwait and the Arab-Israeli conflict. Those situations are different in cause, context, and content. We reject linkage.

But rejecting linkage does not mean rejecting logic: the failure to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict would ensure that this region will remain incendiary.

So much attention is paid to the process of reaching peace. Some say that only discreet bilateral land-for-peace deals will work. Others call for a large conference to discuss Arab-Israeli issues, to negotiate them in a group setting. Others call for an even larger conference, to try to