

revolve. More than one million Palestinian refugees continue to look to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for subsistence. Canada's interest in the welfare of these unfortunate people is demonstrated by its continuing support for the work of the Agency, not only through basic relief but also in the field of rehabilitation. A particularly encouraging development in this respect has been the formulation by the Director of UNRWA of an expanded educational and vocational training programme, which will involve the improvement of facilities for elementary and secondary education for refugee youth, and the opening during the next two years of six new vocational training centres. When these new institutions become fully operative, the UNRWA vocational training programme will turn out about 2500 graduates a year, compared to about 500 at present. In addition to providing opportunities for an increased number of young refugees to develop their latent talents, this programme will make an important contribution toward meeting the need for skilled personnel in a region where rapid technological progress is taking place. The Canadian Government, by a special contribution of \$1-million worth of flour to UNRWA, has made possible the release of an equal amount for the construction of two of the new vocational-training schools. (This special grant was in addition to Canada's annual cash contribution of \$500,000 to the UNRWA budget, and the gift of \$1.5-million worth of flour donated by this country each year since 1957.)

The pattern of tensions in the Middle East arising out of Arab-Israeli differences is further complicated by disputes among Arab states. A grave deterioration of relations between Jordan and the United Arab Republic followed the death on September 26 of the Jordanian Prime Minister, in a bomb explosion in Amman. The tension continued for several months after the incidents, and was reflected in violent propaganda exchanges. This series of events demonstrated again the usefulness of maintaining in Amman the United Nations office popularly known as the Spinelli Mission. It fulfilled an important function, as in previous periods of extreme tension, in keeping the Secretary-General of the United Nations fully informed about developments, and in counselling moderation to the parties concerned. A more encouraging event in the field of inter-Arab relations was the decision announced by Jordan at the beginning of October to recognize the present Government of Iraq, which has restored some measure of contact between these neighbouring states.