

observer group, UNOGIL, had access to all the frontier areas between Lebanon and Syria. They had been increased in numbers and personnel and were also getting aircraft for the purpose of carrying out their directives from the Secretary-General.

During recent weeks there has been one frontier of Lebanon that has been quiet. That is the frontier with Israel. Indeed, I would point out that during this difficult period all of Israel's frontiers have been quiet. That is a tribute to Israel, to the United Arab Republic and to other countries, and it is also a tribute to the effectiveness of two other United Nations organizations, the United Nations Emergency Force along the Egyptian-Israeli armistice line and the United Nations truce supervision organization on Israel's other frontier.

Now to return to the narrative of events that I anticipated a few moments ago I would give. On July 14 there occurred the sudden, swift and violent revolution in Iraq which transformed the situation in the Middle East overnight. Within Lebanon it appeared still further to exacerbate internal dissensions and - of this I am convinced - the happenings in Iraq rendered UNOGIL incapable, at least temporarily, of meeting its responsibilities, in the dangerous situation thus created. And so it was in this situation that President Eisenhower responded promptly and affirmatively to a request from President Chamoun of Lebanon. As President Eisenhower stated at the time of the landing of United States troops in Lebanon, the force was not there to engage in hostilities but to help Lebanon in its own efforts to stabilize the situation until - and I emphasize that word "until" - the United Nations could take the steps necessary to protect Lebanon's independence and integrity.

Two days later, as we recall, the United Kingdom found it necessary to take similar emergency action in response to an appeal from King Hussein of Jordan for military assistance in the face of a plot instigated from outside Jordan to overthrow the regime. I have been informed reliably, and I know, that there was not only a plot to overthrow the government in Jordan but also that the plot extended to other countries in the Middle East to overthrow their governments.

As the Prime Minister informed the House on July 17, the Canadian Government appreciated that the United States and the United Kingdom had no alternative but to take these interim measures. We knew then that both governments had stated specifically that the landing of troops and the keeping of troops there would be terminated as soon as the United Nations could take effective action. We understood the difficulty of the decision that the two countries, the United Kingdom and the United States, had been forced to take.