

Amendments Proposed

In subsequent amendments to the United Kingdom resolution the United States agreed that a Conciliation Commission should be established and that modifications of the boundaries proposed by the Mediator should be considered insofar as they might contribute to a peaceful adjustment of the differences between the two parties. The United States continued, however, to place emphasis on the possibility of securing agreement by negotiation and called on the parties to extend for this purpose the scope of the armistice negotiations already arranged by the Security Council.

Mr. Pearson's Statement

Mr. L. B. Pearson, chairman of the Canadian delegation, made a statement in the committee on November 22. The principal points of the statement follow:

There are certain basic elements in the situation as we see it which must be recognized if the Mediator's advice is to be taken. There are certain facts which must be accepted if peace is to be restored and maintained.

The emergence of an independent Jewish State in Palestine as recommended by the Assembly a year ago is one such fact which must be taken into account in the consideration of any further developments.

No indigenous Arab authority has emerged in Palestine which has yet demonstrated its ability to take over authority in areas which are not under the control of the Jewish State.

Truce, Armistice and Peace

The additional territorial and political adjustments which must now take place in Palestine must be made as far as possible by the people of that territory themselves. The United Nations can and should make available its good offices in a number of forms but the people who live in that area must bear the main responsibility for working out the terms of their own association. They can do this either directly or through mediation but

they must take responsibility for decisions which are finally reached. Those who are directly concerned and who refuse to participate in such negotiations and decisions take on themselves a very heavy responsibility.

This further process of settlement must be a peaceful one. The whole effort of the United Nations over the past year has been to keep, so far as possible, the peace in Palestine. Unfortunately we have not been able to prevent fighting from taking place. By and large, however, the truce has prevented large scale and continuous war and in its most recent action the Security Council has reaffirmed its determination that neither party in Palestine shall renew its efforts to settle this issue by force. The Security Council has recently gone further and has pointed the way to peace by directing the parties to change the truce into an armistice.

Basic Principles

So far as the action of this Assembly is concerned I should like to see a decision taken which would incorporate the following principles, all of which must be taken together:

First, a recognition of the existence of a Jewish State. Possibly we need not wait for this action until the boundaries of that State are precisely and finally defined. I think, however, that we have the right to know that the State which we are recognizing, and this recognition would make it eligible for membership in United Nations, has committed itself fully to the principles of peaceful settlement which are embodied in the Charter and has shown its acceptance of these principles by giving effect to the truce and armistice arrangements which have been laid down by the Security Council.

I hope in the second place that the United Nations will establish some body, perhaps a small Commission as has been suggested in the United Kingdom resolution, to make available its good offices to both the Jewish State and its neighbours in working