

### Middle East

Now a word about the Middle East. Canada is not a member of SEATO and is not directly concerned with what is done in the organization. We are, of course, in close contact with most of the nations which belong to SEATO. Our dealings with them are as nations rather than with SEATO as an organization. The same thing might be said concerning the ANZUS Treaty.

The Middle East continues to be a very sensitive area. Canada has embassies in the United Arab Republic, Israel, Lebanon, Turkey, Iran and I hope before long will have some representation in Iraq. Our relations with all of these countries are good, even though they do not all agree among themselves. We are, of course, at all times doing what we can to help bring about a settlement of these very difficult problems in that area. We are also involved directly because of Canada's participation in the United Nations Emergency Force. We had there in that Force 945 men as of December 31. That was the second largest of the seven national units in the Emergency Force.

We believe that this Force is rendering a very efficient and worth-while service. Whereas there was some trouble on the Israeli-Syrian border a few days ago, no such trouble has flared up in the area where the United Nations Emergency Force is situated. Of course, it is not equipped for major fighting; it has only small arms and it is only, really, a police force. But we think it is rendering a great contribution, and regard it as a vital stabilizing force in the Middle East besides being a demonstration of the ability of the United Nations in similar conditions to place in the field a paramilitary force of substantial size as a means of separating combatant forces and preventing the renewal of hostilities between sovereign states.

We are also very much interested in the problem of the refugees in the Middle East. This subject was debated at some length in the United Nations, and Canada is continuing her contribution of \$500,000, subject to Parliamentary approval, to UNRWA for work in this field.

Finally, there is the United Nations itself. I do not take the United Nations last because of any considerations as to relative importance, for it certainly is as important in Canadian external policy as any other organization. It is a huge organization with several thousand employees and I believe most of them have a United Nations mentality; rather than feeling they are working for their own countries they feel that they are working for the United Nations. They are being given wonderful leadership by the Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjold, who is bringing order out of chaos in an amazing way. When I think of having 82 parties in the House of Commons here and trying to reach any result, and then see the representatives of 82 nations working together down in New York, I am forced to conclude that somebody, somewhere, has done a great deal of careful planning, and it is really a seven-day wonder the way results are obtained at that organization.