

Having said this, however, I would not wish my remarks to be interpreted as meaning that the Canadian Delegation believes that the complaint of Syria on this occasion is well-founded. It is evident that the Government of Syria views the situation along its borders with anxiety and concern, but for our part we are satisfied that the Government of Turkey has not behaved, and has no intention of behaving in any sense, in the irresponsible manner suggested in the explanatory memorandum submitted with the Syrian item, and in the statement of the distinguished Foreign Minister of Syria during this debate. In this connection I should like to endorse what the distinguished representative of the United States had to say on Friday about Turkey as a loyal member of the United Nations.

On several occasions during the course of this debate, the Assembly has heard the solemn assurances of the Government of Turkey about its intentions. We believe that these assurances are entitled to receive our respectful attention. The distinguished representative of Turkey has given some account of the anxiety which his government and his people have been experiencing because of recent developments in neighbouring countries. These comments from the representative of Turkey are surely relevant to our discussion here and particularly in view of the violent remarks which we have heard from the distinguished Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union.

Our intention at this time is not to engage in polemics or propaganda, but we cannot fail to note the lack of restraint which has characterized the statements of the Soviet Delegation during this debate. These have led us to question the motives and intentions of the Soviet Government in supporting the complaint of Syria. The Canadian approach to this item would be to deal with it calmly and constructively and we therefore deplore utterances here and statements elsewhere which, through their very lack of restraint, tend to aggravate not only the debate in this Assembly, but the situation in the area. However, in saying this, we are fully aware that unwarranted charges and accusations cannot be left unanswered, as the distinguished representative of the United States made clear in his intervention on October 25.

It was emphasized in the General Committee that the Syrian item involved a situation which all members of the United Nations should try to discuss in an atmosphere of calm and confidence. We regard this as good advice. We believe too that the Assembly would be wise to consider this matter carefully with a view to bringing about a reconciliation, rather than an intensification, of conflicting views. In other words, we should seek to allay any apprehension and anxiety which might prevail in the states immediately concerned. By doing this, we would help to allay those wider anxieties which naturally stem from deterioration of the situation in the Middle East. We have been happy to see that others share our preference for a constructive approach to the Syrian item.