

confident that if sufficient will exists on all sides to solve the other sensitive and complex issues in dispute, agreement can also be reached on the City's future. I therefore recommend that pending a comprehensive solution to the dispute Canada should continue its traditional policy of non-recognition of Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem and its suburbs, in accordance with United Nations Resolution 242 and other UN resolutions which we, as a country, supported following the Israeli annexation in 1967.

Material Assistance

Our most visible efforts towards alleviating the hardships inflicted by the Arab-Israeli conflict and towards reducing tensions between parties to the dispute have been through our contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees and through United Nations peacekeeping. Beginning with Canadian participation in the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization in 1948 Canada has since been continuously involved in UN peacekeeping activities. Members of our armed forces have served weary months and years in inhospitable conditions, seeking to ensure the respect of armistice and disengagement agreements between Israel and her neighbours. This is a role in which Canadians have developed expertise and which is appreciated by the countries of the area. It is a responsibility we should continue to assume when we believe that peacekeeping can be helpful in preventing the outbreak of hostilities, reducing tensions or establishing an environment on the ground conducive to dialogue between the countries in dispute.

Since its establishment in 1950 Canada has also given generous financial support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in its effort. UNRWA now assists over 600,000 refugees in camps in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Israeli occupied territories by providing them education, training and health services as well as basic food rations. We have traditionally been one of UNRWA's largest contributors. During my visit to Jordan I was able to tour a major refugee camp and discuss the Agency's activities with its officials there. There is no doubt in my mind that UNRWA has played an essential role in alleviating the hardship of the Palestinian refugees and providing them with educational opportunities which have enabled them both to sustain themselves better and to make a significant contribution to the development of many of the Arab states. I believe Canada should continue its contributions to UNRWA, whose activities are also an important reminder to the Palestinians that the international community has accepted a responsibility for the refugees of 1948 and 1967.

If a general settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute can be achieved in the Middle East which would require the support of the international community, I believe that Canada, within the limits of its resources and capabilities, should be ready to play its part in assisting