

*Supply—External Affairs*

What the Secretary General will be empowered to do remains yet to be decided. We made a proposal yesterday that there should be a follow-up on the decision to order a cease fire, a follow-up by making sure that the cease fire was implemented and that the necessary steps were taken consequential on that decision.

There is now the problem of recognizing that in the Middle East, as in Africa and as in Asia, many countries have a very low standard of living. The U.A.R. is one of the less developed countries of the world. Its housing and its population problems impress one just as they do the visitor to populous India. Our responsibilities in raising the standards of the people of the world must not be confined only to Africa and to Asia. They must be extended all over, and this is one region that must be included.

Surely then it ought to be possible for all of us in the United Nations to determine by our policies that we are going to do a number of things. We are first of all going to see to it that the brave people of Israel are not denied the right which was given to them by the United Nations. It was the United Nations that brought this country into being, that gave it form, that gave it substance, and the United Nations has a responsibility to see that both the form and the substance remain. So, its integrity is basic in whatever we do, likewise its right to contacts with the outside world through the strait of Tiran and the gulf of Aqaba.

As I said earlier, we have got to meet the terrible problem of the dislocated families and peoples in the Gaza, and wherever the refugees are, and to see to it that they are given the opportunity of a full life, thereby removing one of the temptations of some of the excessive nationalism that in some parts of the Middle East has made itself felt in the last 20 years.

This is a gigantic problem. It is not a problem that can be solved overnight; but if this regrettable situation in the last few weeks does no more than bring home to us the collective responsibility of all of the nations, including those primarily involved, perhaps it will have forced on us the realization of the kind of hostility that has provoked this terrible situation.

I take my seat, not apologetically in any way for the United Nations or for the United Nations force. I believe that in the kind of world that we live in, with all its imperfections of structure and capacity, there is no

other view one can take of the United Nations than to regard it as an inevitable institution in this interdependent nuclear world. Those who criticize it have been among those who at one time have lauded it the most. Those who have been criticizing peace keeping, including the United Nations emergency force, have been among those to claim the authorship of the idea.

Let no one in this house mistake the significance of the structure that we are building. We are slowly building in the international community, in spite of these regrettable situations, a kind of legal order that was gradually built up only after centuries of effort in the domestic community of every country in the world. The authority of the law in England did not always reside with England. The authority of the law in Canada did not always reside, historically speaking, with the nation state. Justice was once meted out by buying off vengeance from the individual. It was only bit by bit that the community asserted itself.

That is what is happening despite all our problems; in spite of war and the danger of war, that is what is happening in our world today. With these beliefs which I know members of this house share, we must see to it in this particular situation that the United Nations is not needlessly depreciated. It must be supported so that it can meet the tremendous problems that lie ahead in the Middle East, and which lie ahead—who knows—in Viet Nam, and which lie ahead in other situations which may develop. Let none of us believe that we make a contribution to world progress if we lose faith, the second time in 35 years, in a collective security system designed to establish order among the nations of the world.

● (8:30 p.m.)

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Laprise:** Mr. Chairman, in the last few hours, we have become more optimist about the Middle East conflict.

Early this afternoon the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) announced that the members of the security council of the United Nations had unanimously agreed to the cease fire resolution. A little later he advised that the United Arab Republic had followed the example of Israel and we have reason to believe that all violence has now come to an end in the Middle East.

But that does not mean that the crisis itself is resolved.