

these resolutions. I further indicated in the House last week, in reply to a question, that, in our view, such provisions of Resolution 242...as those calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied territories and the establishment of secure and recognized boundaries for all states in the region had to be taken together. Naturally, such matters as the drawing of boundaries may prove to be a long task, but is it beyond our imagination to devise means of starting the implementation of the various provisions simultaneously?

The so-called Rogers Plan in 1970 provided for partial implementation of Resolution 242, by a simultaneous reopening of the Suez Canal to navigation and a withdrawal by Israeli forces from the east bank of the canal. While that plan failed, the idea of balance is still a valid one. In fact, the whole basis of Resolution 242 is a balance of obligations and commitments. The problem of Palestinian refugees is one of the items in that balance. The resolution affirms the necessity "for achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem", and this problem should be at least broached simultaneously with the other matters I have mentioned. Canada has not forgotten these refugees. We are the third-largest contributor to the United Nations agency which looks after their needs and we have just increased by \$550,000 our contribution for the current year.

The main thing now is quickly to get around to negotiating "under appropriate auspices" as Security Council Resolution 338 has it. To us, it would seem that the United Nations offers appropriate auspices. Others have mentioned the great powers, or some of them. We should hope that they would exert their influence to stimulate the parties to begin negotiations. To the Canadian Government any auspices would seem appropriate that provide a means whereby talks can begin on the essential aspects of the problem.

For more than 25 years, the United Nations has played the role of mediator, peace-keeper and truce-supervisor in the Middle East. We cannot yet be sure that peace is any closer now than in 1948, 1956 or 1967. Once more, the parties in conflict are calling upon the United Nations to step in and give them time -- time that can be used to negotiate for peace or to prepare for war. The Canadian Government, in agreeing to contribute its part to the UN peace effort, is not taking on this commitment in a spirit of blind optimism. We have had too long an experience in this field, the United Nations has had too long an experience in trying to find a peaceful settlement in the Middle East, for anyone to be afflicted with that particular defect. We consider that we have a responsibility to the world community and to all the people of the