their constant threat of force to destroy it and agree to negotiate a permanent peace settlement, long demanded by Israel. Indeed, as long as they continue to flout both the United Nations Charter and United Nations decisions which created Israel, even their right to seek the protection of the United Nations is subject to challenge. This is equally true of Colonel Nasser's high-handed seizure of the Suez Canal in violation of an international treaty and the established international order, not to speak of his whole program of Arab imperialism. The test of Egypt's good faith in this matter must be Egyptian agreement to international control of the canal which will guarantee it against overt or covert misuse in the interest of Colonel Nasser's imperial plans.

There is hope that the shock of the new war will give new impetus to such solutions, and that, in fact, the Egyptian military collapse, after all Colonel Nasser's boasting, will contribute to them. But it will also require wise statesmanship and dynamic diplomacy to achieve these ends. Thursday night's vote in the General Assembly must now be followed by constructive action.

AFTER THE U. N. VOTE

World-wide alarm over the new war in the Middle East has found forceful expression in the emergency resolution adopted by an overwhelming majority of the General Assembly of the United Nations, calling, "as a matter of priority," for an immediate cease-fire, a halt to the movement of military forces into the area and a withdrawal of all forces behind the previous armistice lines. The first point applies to all belligerents; the second to the poised British and French landing forces along the Suez Canal; the last, in view of the rout of the Egyptians, to the forces of Israel.

Whether and how far any of the Governments involved will or can comply with this resolution remains to be seen. Israel hints that it has achieved its primary objective of destroying the bases of raiding Egyptian terrorists, but an Israeli withdrawal without further clarification of the situation is another matter. As for the British and French, they have committed themselves to such an extent that it would be difficult for them to withdraw without a collapse of their present Governments and a loss of national prestige that would affect their whole position in the world. But the line-up in the Assembly, which found even North Atlantic alliance members and Commonwealth countries voting against them or abstaining, is such that they cannot ignore it.

This makes it a matter of urgency to find solutions which will not only permit the Governments involved to save face but create conditions that will preclude a repetition of the present tragic events. Such solutions can be found only in a permanent and guaranteed peace settlement between Israel and the Arab states and a new regime for the Suez Canal, putting that essential waterway under international control.

This was the sentiment that emerged toward the end of the dramatic and unprecedented Assembly session. There have been dozens of general or local cease-fire orders and agreements, but none lasted long or settled anything. No better fate can be predicted for the latest order, even if obeyed. For that reason, as Mr. Pearson of Canada pointed out, the cease-fire resolution is inadequate to achieve the Assembly's purpose, and both Secretary Dulles and Sir Pierson Dixon, the British delegate, agreed with him that something better than an uneasy armistice or the present insecurity of the Suez Canal must be achieved. Sir Pierson suggested a suitably constituted conference to work out a permanent peace for the troubled region, with due regard for the legitimate interests of all concerned.

As a first step in that direction Mr. Pearson has proposed the creation of a United Nations police force to keep peace in the area. This idea was welcomed with "keen interest" by Secretary Dulles, and Prime Minister Eden has already stated that Britain would gladly turn over this task to such a force once the position has been stabilized. But even that step would be only a temporary remedy and a preliminary to more enduring measures.

Such measures demand, first of all, that the Arab states finally recognize the existence of Israel, stop

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.