

At any rate, there has been a discouraging lack of progress, and this is quite understandable, after all, because the conflict between Israel and the Arabs is not just what you might call an international dispute that could be sent to a court or a solution found for it in the U.N. It is a whole complex of different disputes over territories; over the status of refugees; over the capital of the State of Israel; what its international status is supposed to be - Jerusalem; over the sharing of waters which are so important to all these people because the nature of their geography and the absence of any diplomatic or other relations - the trade boycott and blockade and the denial of the Suez Canal - all this thing makes a whole package of problems.

You can't deal with the whole package and you can't really deal with any one of them because it involves the other. And behind all this is this emotionally-held hatred of the other side; a deep nationalism on both sides; of Jewish nationalism, or Zionists, or whatever you want to call it, on the one hand, and an Arab nationalism on the other. Their objectives and their modes of thinking; their whole being, is so much in conflict and so different, that you don't see any compromise possible.

I got a line from Colonel T. E. Lawrence in speaking of Semites - and, of course, Semites includes both the Arabs and the Jews - and he says, "Semites have no half-tones in their register of vision. They exclude compromise and pursue the logic of their ideas to its absurd end." And this is what is actually the case. Each one has his eye on his own objective and completely reads out any consideration of the *point* of view of the other fellow.