

The three-month mandate of UNFICYP was renewed by the Security Council in June, September and December. On each occasion, the Secretary-General requested contributing governments to participate until the end of the current period established by the Security Council. The Canadian Government considered each request as it was received and recommitted Canada's contribution for three months at a time. Throughout the year, Parliament showed a continuing interest in the Force and in Canadian participation in it.

The Security Council resolutions which established and continued the Force provided that it should be financed by voluntary contributions. Such contributions were made by some 35 members of the United Nations. Some countries, such as Britain, Ireland and Canada, agreed to provide contingents and to pay themselves the costs of maintaining these contingents in Cyprus. The costs of maintaining the other contingents were met by the voluntary contributions made to the Secretary-General's Special Account for UNFICYP. These contributions were sufficient to enable the Secretary-General to meet until the end of the year those costs of the Force for which the United Nations had assumed responsibility. Canada paid all the costs of maintaining its contingent in Cyprus, including those arising from the positioning of the Canadian contingent there and its rotation in September. Canada decided to pay its own way because it believed that the operation was necessary to prevent an already serious international situation from deteriorating further and because, in view of the financial crisis faced by the United Nations, the Force could not have been financed in any other way. Canada formally advised the United Nations, however, that it was doing this without prejudice to its stated position that the costs of peace-keeping operations should be met by recognizing the principle of collective responsibility of all United Nations members.

For the first six months of UNFICYP's operation, its major effort was focused on the task of bringing inter-communal hostilities to an end, for it was clear that, unless this were done, no progress could be made towards a solution of the Cyprus problem. By the end of 1964, the United Nations' efforts had brought about a considerable improvement in restoring conditions of relative tranquillity to the island. No agreement had been reached, however, on the basic political issues which divided the parties and, in the absence of substantial progress towards such an agreement, it appeared likely that UNFICYP, or some other form of United Nations presence, would continue to be required in Cyprus.