

Q.: Do you want to take them out of Cyprus ?

SSEA.: I wouldn't link it to that.

Q.: Was Mr Pepin flying a trial balloon ?

SSEA.: No, I don't think so. I think that as I've said, I have not had a chance to discuss whether there have been any new developments in his discussions with the Contadora Group. But when I was in New York last week it is true the Contadora Group was attempting to work out precise arrangements with the Central America countries, based upon a set of principles. They were still working at that and how far it has gone since is not known to me, but certainly we have received no request of any kind.

Q.: How would you assess the prospects for increased trade with China following the Foreign Minister's visit?

SSEA.: I think that we had a very good visit. We talked extensively about economic questions and I think that his visit will give a fresh impetus to our economic and commercial cooperation. We intend to convene meeting of the Joint Trade Committee in 1984 and that will give us a chance to give a further boost to our trade efforts.

Q.: If you are asked to send troops in there, are you ready to do it? and will you do it?

SSEA.: Well I think that Canada would want to see the request to see the circumstances of the political settlement. It would be quite premature to begin to say yes to a request not made and in a form unknown to us.

15:45 hrs 06 October 1983

Mr. Pepin's Scrum

The five countries of Central America have now signed that 21 point declaration. So progress I thought was being done. Now, Canada has followed that very closely. The Prime Minister has written to the four countries of the Contadora Group, once twice has seen them; Mr. MacEachen has talked to them, I talked to some, he talked to others. So the point is that at one point someone asked me what are you going to do now? I said that it follows we cannot simply talk around the subject that should progress be accomplished, and in a modest fashion should Canada be

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