

*Supply—External Affairs*

this fact. But I think what has been said by the Leader of the Opposition is something which the government must take cognizance of. This parliament dispatched troops to Cyprus, and while we are heartened to have from the minister the assurance that the government is satisfied that the terms of reference and the directives are satisfactory, it should be remembered that the people of Canada have committed their sons and their treasure to what may be a battlefield. Therefore I think we have a right to know that they are amply protected and that they will not be hamstrung by the directives.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I may assure my hon. friend that they will not be hamstrung and the directives do not permit that.

**Mr. Douglas:** This is what we would like to know. Is it true, as has been reported, that they will not be allowed to remove roadblocks?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** That is not the situation.

**Mr. Douglas:** The newspapers have reported that they will not be allowed to remove roadblocks. Troops cannot move in mechanized vehicles unless they can remove roadblocks and drive away any military forces that insist on restricting them. Second, I think the whole question of disarming guerrilla forces ought to be cleared up. If this is going to be left entirely to the Greek government, does this mean that the Greek government is going to disband only Turkish guerrillas and leave Greek guerrillas armed, or under the subterfuge of taking them into the national militia to allow them to roam about the country? What is the position of the United Nations force if it sees guerrillas attacking defenceless villages and helpless men and women? Can they intervene or are they there purely as a showpiece? Are they in a position where they can not only defend themselves, but can also intervene to prevent civil war?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I am sure my hon. friend would not want the country to get the impression that they cannot defend themselves. I assure my hon. friend that the directives will enable them to defend themselves to the full. I must say to my right hon. friend, the former prime minister that, knowing the responsibilities of government and knowing the situation in Cyprus, what he said today was not calculated to assist in the discharge of that very difficult assignment.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** May I say to the hon. gentleman that that statement is uncalled

[Mr. Douglas.]

for and improper, and indicates that in order to get away from answering he resorts to that subterfuge.

**Mr. Douglas:** Out of the three minutes I had, Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the Opposition and the Secretary of State for External Affairs have taken one and a half, so I suggest that we call it six o'clock.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I am very sorry. I would be agreeable to go on.

At six o'clock the committee took recess.

**AFTER RECESS**

The committee resumed at 8 p.m.

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

**L27e.** To authorize the Minister of Finance, notwithstanding the Unemployment Insurance Act, to credit, on such terms and conditions as the governor in council may determine, to the unemployment insurance fund such sums as may from time to time be required by the said fund; the aggregate of the sums outstanding at any one time not to exceed \$55,000,000—To extend the purposes of vote L27a of the estimates for 1963-64 to cover requirements in the fiscal year 1964-65, \$1.

**Mr. Knowles:** Is the minister going to make a statement?

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a brief statement in explanation of this request to authorize the Minister of Finance to credit the unemployment insurance fund such sums as may from time to time be required by the fund, the aggregate of the sums outstanding at any time not to exceed \$55 million. This is the purpose of vote L27e of the estimates for 1963-64 to cover the requirements in the fiscal year 1964-65, and that item will be found in the supplementary estimates for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1964.

The unemployment insurance fund at the end of the fiscal year closing yesterday had a debit balance of \$4½ million. As we know, the heavy months for disbursements are the months of April and May, when disbursements from the fund usually outrun the income to the fund. Therefore the purpose of this particular item is to authorize the Minister of Finance to make loans to the fund to tide it over the period of the next two months, and as the requirements of the next two months are made known by the treasury officers of the unemployment insurance commission, the requests will be made by the commission for these advances.

I may add that the necessity for making this request arises from the longstanding condition that has prevailed within the fund, namely the excess annually of disbursements