

Statement by the Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
The Honourable Mitchell Sharp

CYPRUS - CURRENT SITUATION

On behalf of Canada, which is a contributor to the United Nations Forces in Cyprus, I wish to reiterate our deep concern over the situation in Cyprus resulting from the coup d'état led by the Greek officers of the National Guard. My concern is deepened by the further deterioration of the situation in the area following on military intervention by Turkey.

I indicated in my statement of July 18 that if the current crisis on Cyprus is to be resolved in a peaceful manner and if the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Cyprus are to be maintained, close cooperation will be required on the part of the United Kingdom, Greek and Turkish Governments, which are parties to the Treaty of Guarantee with Cyprus.

In order to avoid further bloodshed and obtain a negotiated settlement of the crisis, I am convinced that those three Governments must immediately fulfil their obligation to consult together in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Guarantee.

Accordingly I have today directed a specific and urgent appeal to the Governments of Greece and Turkey to respond to the invitation of the Government of the United Kingdom to consult together under that Treaty in order to achieve a cessation of the hostilities and to accept their joint responsibility for seeking a just and peaceful solution to the current crisis in Cyprus. I have also appealed to the Greek and Turkish Governments to avoid any further action which would prejudice the chances of a negotiated settlement.