interest would be served by UN collective action to prevent inter-communal conflict while a political settlement was being sought.

The first Canadians landed in Nicosia on March 16, 1964, and other national contingents from Ireland, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and Austria arrived during the following weeks to join the British, who were already on Cyprus. The force became operational on March 27, 1964. It was charged with the tasks of (1) preventing a recurrence of fighting, (2) contributing to the restoration and maintenance of order, and (3) contributing to the return to normal conditions.

During the next 11 years, the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was largely successful in carrying out its principal objective of preventing a recurrence of fighting. Although the fundamental frictions and animosities remained, no major outbreaks of violence occurred. In fact, tensions on the island were reduced to such a degree during this period that it eventually proved possible to implement major changes in both the size and duties of the peacekeeping force. By 1974, the size of the force had been reduced to 2,800 men from an original strength of 6,200 military personnel. In addition, its role was altered. Although the main task of the force continued to be the prevention of violence, greater emphasis was placed on preventative action involving measures such as patrolling, persuasion and negotiation rather than the deployment of forces interposed between the two contesting parties.

But this restructuring of the force occurred also as a reaction to one of the fundamental difficulties in the peacekeeping and peacemaking process.

Peace-keeping is designed to assist the parties to a dispute to draw back from conflict when they recognize that this is in their best interests, and to help create circumstances in which their differences can be settled by negotiation. Peace-keeping is a military task involving the placement of an international force between quarrelling parties. It is not an end in itself. It is intended to create the conditions for the process of peacemaking -- that is, the diplomatic search for a solution to the underlying causes of a conflict.

But in Cyprus there was a distinct lack of progress towards a political settlement. So successful was the UN force in peace-keeping that it came to be viewed as almost a permanent fixture on Cyprus, with the result that there was relatively little incentive for the two sides to make the difficult compromises that are necessary for a political settlement. The countries contributing troops to the UN force expressed concern about this lack of progress, and consequently its restructuring was undertaken in the hope that this would induce