

participated in the 1978 United Nations review of the question of peacekeeping operations. The Canadian position stressed that peacekeeping was an essential function of the United Nations but was not in itself a substitute for the peaceful settlement of disputes; that peacekeeping costs should be borne by all United Nations members; and that practical measures as well as general guidelines were required to ensure the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations. The passing of the resolution by the General Assembly, however, had little effect on the financial and other arrangements for UNFICYP, nor on the dispute itself.

A detached observer cannot but lament the missed opportunities for cooperation and reconciliation that have occurred despite protracted discussions. On the one hand, the Turkish community has been unable to set aside past grievances, preferring instead the security offered by a geographically separate communal existence. On the other hand, the Greek Cypriot community has been unwilling to appreciate the Turkish Cypriot concerns raised by a solution based solely on self-determination. A solution incorporating the requirements for communal security with the communal mobility required to implement the "three freedoms" has remained elusive, and no one has been prepared to run the considerable risks of a partial solution which could lead to more comprehensive arrangements.

These generalizations do not give the full picture of the complex motivations involved, but they do indicate the underlying sentiments which frustrated practical arrangements to move towards a mutually acceptable solution. In the meantime the passage of time has granted the aura of an acceptable *status quo* to the division of the island.

UNFICYP TODAY

MANDATE, STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

UNFICYP's mandate remains as established by the Security Council in March 1964, augmented by additional direction reflecting the changes necessitated by the Turkish intervention. Four major tasks are entailed by the mandate, namely: maintenance of the cease-fire, maintenance of the *status quo*, restoration of normal conditions, and humanitarian functions.

To carry out these tasks the current military strength of UNFICYP is established at 2,087 provided by contingents from eight nations. At present, contingent strengths are as follows: Austria (401); Canada (575); Denmark (341); Finland (10); Ireland (8); Sweden (11); and the United Kingdom (741). Australia and Sweden provide civilian police contingents of 20 and 15 respectively. Civilian political and administrative staff of 35 bring the force total to 2,157.

The Buffer Zone traverses some of the most productive agricultural land in Cyprus. UNFICYP has undertaken to return as much of the Buffer Zone as possible to productive use under the control of its rightful owners. As

well, UNFICYP continues to promote the return to normal conditions through humanitarian operations including control of rabid animals, fire-fighting and mosquito eradication programmes. UNFICYP coordinates and supervises repair and maintenance of the portions of the water and electrical grids traversing the Buffer Zone. The Nicosia Master Plan involving the installation of modern sewage and water facilities to all communities of the municipality is also assisted by UNFICYP. There is only one major crossing point of the Buffer Zone which is used by UNFICYP to facilitate the movement of mail, medical supplies, visas and citizenship documentation, patient and community transfers.

The current manning of UNFICYP is adequate to permit effective maintenance of the cease-fire. The key to this success is the system of liaison maintained by UNFICYP with all levels of command for all forces along the Buffer Zone. Incidents can thus be resolved at the lowest possible level. The low number of cease-fire violations reflects the high degree of cooperation between UNFICYP and opposing forces.

The greatest danger to the maintenance of the cease-fire continues to be the proximity of opposing forces within Nicosia. The potential for a serious accidental or non-intentional violation remains high. Constant vigilance along with scrupulous and impartial enforcement of all agreements and understandings are required to contain tensions in Nicosia, where opposing forces are as close as five metres. The standard of patrolling and observation must remain high as a confidence-building measure to demonstrate that UNFICYP can maintain the *status quo*. Various proposals have been considered for the removal of military forces from the walled portion of the city of Nicosia as a measure of disengagement or "de-confrontation" in UNFICYP terminology. To date, these proposals have not been accepted.

The integrity of the Buffer Zone is regarded by UNFICYP as a key confidence-building measure between opposing forces. The Buffer Zone is not maintained to divide the two communities but as a practical and accepted cease-fire provision. Confrontation is lessened if UNFICYP can demonstrate that it can prevent penetration of the Buffer Zone, either accidental or intentional, from either side. With a total strength of under 2,200 personnel for the 180-kilometre-long Buffer Zone, UNFICYP could not carry out this task without the bi-lateral cooperation between the force and each of the opposing forces. United Nations civilian police detachments work with local police to prevent unauthorized civilian incursions.

THE CANADIAN BALANCE SHEET

It is not possible to measure the goodwill and positive influence which accrues from Canada's support of United Nations peacekeeping, but one can assume that Canada would not lightly surrender its peacekeeping reputation