

which we consider should not repeat not be ignored in considering our own policy in the Cyprus debate.

6. In the first place, the irresponsible behaviour of the Indian delegation at the emergency session of the General Assembly and over several questions before the present Assembly (e.g. the law of the sea) have produced tensions between the Indian delegation and others including members of the Commonwealth. There is deep mistrust within the UK delegation of Indian motives. We, for our part, despite our best efforts have not repeat not found it easy to establish the kind of fruitful working relations with the Indians which we have had in the past. In these circumstances, if this Indian initiative could be the basis of agreement for further consultation among the Three Powers, this, it seems to us, would be a good thing for Commonwealth relations as it would give the Indians the credit for a constructive initiative. For this reason, we do not repeat not wish to rebuff the approaches which the Indians have made to us although it seems to us obvious that we could not repeat not support an Indian resolution which while it carried the Greek support, was opposed by the UK and Turks. It is a delicate and difficult business to keep trying to encourage the more responsible element in Indian thinking and at the same time not repeat not to appear to the UK delegation to be encouraging what they regard as a mischievous Indian initiative. We feel, however, that in the interest of Commonwealth relations and of long-term relations with India, we should play our appropriate part in the endeavour although it must be admitted that we are not repeat not optimistic as to the outcome.

7. A further point to be borne in mind is that, once the Indians have gone into the field with a draft, the chances of Norway and Canada successfully pulling off a resolution more favoured by the UK become very unpromising. We should have to fight the Indians at every step, and in a contest with them for the uncommitted vote, we haven't a chance. Furthermore, the effect on Canadian-Indian relations of our doing so after the Indians had asked us to work in co-sponsorship with them on a draft, which is, on their part, an endeavour to be moderate, would be most unfortunate.

8. Behind this difficult tactical situation it is still possible to see some hopeful signs that wording acceptable to the UK and to the Greeks could be devised. The Turks, we expect, could then be brought along. At this stage, however, the Greeks are understandably not repeat not ready to abandon the favourable opportunities they see for organizing support within the Assembly behind the idea of independence or nationhood for a unified Cyprus, particularly if this thesis is being peddled by Menon. On the other hand, if we can rely on Menon not repeat not to be satisfied with anything less than massive support for his proposition, it may be possible after further manoeuvring to adjust the positions and reach agreement on a text to which none of the three interested parties would take strong opposition. We will continue to have this aim very much in mind and you can be sure that we are alive to the difficulties inherent in the situation.

9. In any event, as we understand our instructions, we shall continue to work for a conference on a basis acceptable to all the parties and this implies the avoidance of taking sides on the substance of the issue. There is just a possibility that if the Indian resolution and perhaps a counter-resolution reflecting UK and Turkish views are to appear in competition before the committee at a final stage a brief compromise text might command the support of the committee which we think will be reluctant to take sides on the question of substance.