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THE REALITIES OF INTERDEPENDENCE IN THE MODERN WORLD

"There is no way in which we can insulate our communities - whatever their size or structure - from what is happening on the outside", the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, told the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities at Windsor, Ontario, on May 18. "These are the realities of interdependence....It used to be possible ...to think of peace and war as options.... War can no longer be regarded as an instrument of policy.... The only option we have is peace...." The speaker went on to say that "the existence of tension and conflict" in the world could not be ignored and that the rapid contemporary changes that had brought with them "new ferment and new friction" must be "directed along peaceful channels", a task to which the United Nations had been dedicated.

Mr. Martin next turned his attention as follows to two major areas of unrest. Of Cyprus, he said:

...This particular operation has had to be conducted against very great odds. The mandate of the operation runs for only three months at a time. The funds to finance it have to come from voluntary contributions. I need hardly say that these continuing uncertainties surrounding the operation have created serious problems of planning and execution. It is, in my view, far from being an ideal pattern for future operations of this kind and I should hope that, out of the discussions now in progress in a special committee of the General Assembly, will come some formula that will give the United Nations a more assured capacity to respond to future situations of emergency.

KEY ROLE OF CANADIANS

I am glad to say that Canada was able to play a crucial part in the establishment of the peace-keeping operation in Cyprus. If we had not acted as and when we did and pledged our support for the operation, there was a real possibility of armed conflict being resumed on the island with all the attendant risks of a military confrontation between Greece and Turkey. In the intervening 14 months, Canada has maintained what is now the largest contingent in Cyprus. And we have shouldered the full financial burden of keeping our forces there.

The end of the operation is not yet in sight, and I hope that more countries will see their way clear to assuming some share of responsibility for its continuance. As far as Canada is concerned, we intend, for the present, to maintain our commitment in Cyprus. At the same time, we look to a long-term settlement of the present crisis which will make the continued presence of a United Nations force on the island unnecessary....

...The situation on the island is complex. Two communities - Greek and Turkish - have long been established there. Both represent cultures and civilizations which have made an immense contribution to the Eastern Mediterranean area and beyond. There has been a breakdown of mutual confidence between these communities and there is very deep bitterness and suspicion between them. The Greek community represents a majority on the island and I think we can all appreciate, in such a situation, the problems encountered in the search

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