

Inquiries of the Ministry

tion to inform the house as to recent developments in connection with the Cyprus situation, and in particular the reaction of the Canadian government to the statesman-like stand being taken by the prime minister of Greece in his warning to President Makarios as to the need of restraint on his part? Have there been any communications by the Canadian government with the prime ministers or foreign ministers of Turkey and Greece? What is the present position regarding the Canadian ambassador to Greece, who has performed his responsibilities so admirably? According to the press he is returning to Greece at once. What in general will be his actions in this connection on arriving in Greece?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Canadian ambassador to Greece was here for a few days and has returned today to his post in Athens. He will be seeing members of the government of Greece regarding some matters we have been discussing with him here in Ottawa. The foreign minister of Greece has responded to the appeal made to him over the week end by calling in one of the officers of our mission in Athens. He took the opportunity on that occasion to express his satisfaction with the contribution that was being made by the United Nations force in which Canada is participating.

Last night there was a meeting of the security council. Some measures were taken to set in motion the terms under which the cease fire will be effected and the terms under which the United Nations force under General Thimayya will be called upon to help in the enforcement of the cease fire. The secretary general is calling a meeting tomorrow of the representatives of the countries participating in the force, and it may be that after that meeting there will be something more to be said.

I would simply say that the security council meeting last night did take note of the flights that were undertaken by Turkey and which, according to the government of that country, were pursued for the purpose of verifying the extent to which the Greek community on the island was living up to the undertaking given on Sunday by the government of Cyprus.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Has there been a favourable reaction on the part of the secretary general to the general agreement in this house a few days ago that additional powers should be made available to the United Na-

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

tions force so as to enable it to discharge its responsibilities properly?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The secretary general has had put before him the debate which took place in this parliament. He has before him the representations that were made by the Canadian government a number of weeks ago with regard to the extension of the powers of the force. He has pointed out, as I pointed out on Monday last, that the extension of the powers of the force depends upon two factors that we cannot overlook. The first is that an agreement for the extension of these powers by the security council is dependant upon the attitude that might be taken by way of veto by any one of a certain number of powers on the council. He likewise pointed out, as the Prime Minister and I pointed out, that in any event if the security council should agree to the extension of powers, this extension in turn would have to be concurred in by the government on the island of Cyprus.

These are not the kind of limitations I am anxious to see perpetuated, but they are there. In any event, it would be interesting to see whether, as a result of tomorrow's meeting, some further progress in this matter can take place. In preparation for tomorrow's meeting the Canadian ambassador at the United Nations is coming to Ottawa this afternoon, and he will return for the meeting tomorrow morning.

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): May I ask a supplementary question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In regard to the efforts being made by the Canadian government to have the powers of the United Nations peace keeping force widened to try to remove the objections by the archbishop to patrols being carried on in all parts of the island, has the Canadian government made diplomatic representations to countries other than Cyprus, Greece and Turkey or the secretary general of the United Nations to try to persuade the archbishop to be more agreeable on this matter?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Yes.

Mr. Nesbitt: Is the minister in a position to tell us to what other countries he has made representation? I realize there may be limitations on what he is able to tell us in this regard.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): We have, through various missions here in Ottawa, communicated with a number of countries in addition to the governments of the countries partici-