

The peacekeeping operations in Cyprus and elsewhere have been mounted on a crash-programme basis. But peacekeeping is likely to be a continuing activity of the U.N. This surely calls for advance planning with a small administrative cadre at U.N. Headquarters and a set of agreed principles on the organization of a force. Among other things there should be agreement in advance on how a force is to be directed and controlled. There should be a set of guidelines for the peacekeeping operation under the overall authority of the Security Council with a system of shared responsibilities among the Council, the Secretary-General, the troop contributors, and the parties involved in the dispute in question.

The experience with the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East, the most recently established U.N. peacekeeping operation, provides a guide for the future. The contributors to the UNEF have been drawn from a broader group of countries than in the past. A general assessment of United Nations membership has provided a sounder financial basis for the operation. And there is an improved system for direction and control of the force.

But we must ensure that these innovations, which are contributing to effective peacekeeping in the Middle East at present, are translated into established principles for the future.

Peacekeeping has proved to be an endless, expensive and at times dangerous job. At the beginning of the operation in Cyprus a Canadian contingent of 1,150 officers and men was authorized. Today we have 518 military personnel in the force. Four Canadians have been killed on active duty. The force is in its eleventh year of existence and we have just approved a further extension to our participation of six months from June 15. The total net cost to Canada over the ten-year period from March 1964 to December 1974 has been roughly \$25 million.

Undoubtedly the burden of peacekeeping is great and there are times when one would like to rid oneself of the onerous task. But the responsibility cannot be shirked. Instead we must work towards making the concept of peacekeeping more effective. It is, after all, one of the few useful tools available to the United Nations in the continuing effort to prevent the use of force in the settlement of international disputes.