

prominent members of the American government, have reiterated the fact that it is quite possible—in other words quite practicable—to impose a military solution. This is why I wondered why you said it was not practicable.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Well, I will tell you what I mean by practicable. If you ask: "Do you say that is not possible?" No; of course I think it would be possible. But, I use the word "practicability" with this in mind: If there is to be a settlement which will hold out a reasonable prospect of long term stability it will have to be based, I think, on a degree of accommodation of the interests of all concerned. This is unlikely to be the result of an exclusively military solution of the present conflict.

Mr. HARKNESS: You get down to the desirability, which is a different matter altogether. I was, as I say, limiting this to the practicability, and I doubt whether this is accurate in view of what I have just said.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Well, you are questioning my semantics. I am not denying there is a point to what you say. I am just explaining my use of the word "practicable".

Mr. HARKNESS: This, for you, is a very definite statement.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): I think it is a correct adjective in the context which I have explained, namely, that we are thinking of a long-term arrangement which will provide and encourage stability in the area.

Mr. HARKNESS: You dealt at some length on Tuesday with the possibility of sending a peacekeeping force in, and said that discussions had been taking place with regard to that matter as well as assessments of the number of people that might be required. In fact, you said that not only for the boundary between North and South Vietnam but because of the long boundary between South Vietnam and Laos the numbers required would be very considerable. Have any assessments been made at all of the numbers of people that would be required?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): I indicated yesterday that naturally we had been giving consideration to this problem, as have others. We have not finished our examination, nor have conclusions been reached by others with whom we have exchanged views. I cannot add to that, except to repeat what I said yesterday.

Mr. HARKNESS: In effect, no appreciation has been made of the size of force that would be required for this purpose?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Yes, consideration is being given to this, and there are tentative positions taken in respect of interested parties.

Mr. HARKNESS: I am not asking the number of people that Canada might be asked to send, or be prepared to send, or anything else; I am asking what the over-all appreciation is of the numbers of people that might be required for an operation of this kind. Can you give us any indication of what it might be?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): I could not, at this time, disclose in public even the tentative figures.

Mr. HARKNESS: As far as you can go, then, is what you have already said—that they would be very considerable?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Yes; I would remind you that in the UNEF we had originally, I think, 6,500. It is now down to around 3,400. In the Cyprus