

We have tried to do that through the United Nations and in other ways. We have not been entirely unsuccessful. But, as we look around the world, we can hardly be complacent about the results. The need to perfect the instruments of peace is as vital today as it has ever been.

Within the last fortnight, I was able to witness at first hand the great contribution to peace which the United Nations is making in Cyprus. It was a memorable experience. On that island, some 6,000 United Nations soldier-ambassadors are effectively keeping the peace. They are playing an indispensable part. By their presence and by helping to resolve causes of local friction, they are preventing the recurrence of fighting. They are helping to establish law and order. They are doing what they can towards the gradual restoration of normal conditions of life on the island. They are holding the fort while the groundwork is being laid for political negotiations looking towards a peaceful solution of the dispute. They are doing a magnificent job. They are doing honour and credit to the nine countries which placed those peace-keeping forces at the disposal of the United Nations.

I have come away from Cyprus with a much more vivid impression of what the United Nations has done there. I was particularly pleased that United Nations forces now have much greater authority and freedom of movement than they had in the earlier phases of their mission. I want to pay particular tribute to General Thimayya, the distinguished Indian soldier, who is in command of United Nations forces on the island and who has contributed so much to the success of this operation. It is probably the most effective operation the United Nations has ever conducted in the cause of peace.

I am proud to report to you this evening on the key role that our own Canadian forces have been playing in Cyprus. They have set a very high standard of performance. They and their predecessors have established an enviable reputation for themselves. That was the unanimous judgment of all concerned on the island, including the President of Cyprus, Archbishop Makarios, the Vice-President, Dr. Kuchuk, and General Thimayya. It has certainly confirmed our belief that training for peace enhances the effectiveness of Canadian forces called upon to serve under the blue and white banner of the United Nations.

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.

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