

practical goals set forth in this programme, Cyprus, with the assistance of UNFICYP, may be able to move significantly toward peace and normality."

Conclusion

No one who is at all familiar with the situation in Cyprus has any doubt of the problems which lie ahead. We will inevitably face added difficulties, but the nations of the world had no responsible alternative except that of supporting the United Nations in yet another peace-keeping endeavour.

I can assure you that the active peace-keeping role of our troops in Cyprus will receive the strong support that it deserves from the Government and people of Canada. We are in daily communication with the United Nations in New York and the United Nations Force Commander in Cyprus through our Permanent Representative to the UN and our High Commissioner in Nicosia. We are taking every opportunity to make constructive suggestions to the United Nations.

One of the suggestions which we are now supporting strongly is that there be a high-level meeting between representatives of the Governments of Greece and Turkey at the earliest possible date. It seems to us desirable -- even essential -- that this meeting should take place in order to remove dangers of miscalculation or misunderstanding and to try to find some path out of the dark despair into which this unhappy situation might otherwise deteriorate. Such a meeting would not necessarily solve the Cyprus problem, but it might serve to avert the further involvement of other governments.

I know we can count on a continuation of the sober and realistic support which the Canadian people have given to the Government in connection with the task on which our Canadian troops have embarked in Cyprus. I am grateful for the understanding and sympathy with which the difficulties the UN faces are being received. I can assure you of the Government's determination to do everything in its power to help in bringing about a return to peaceful conditions in this troubled area. There is no other course open to men and nations of goodwill if we are to be true to ourselves, our country and the international community.

---