

*of several Canadian soldiers on Cyprus)? Is it with the Government of Cyprus, the Government of Turkey or the Government of Greece? Second, with regard to the reports that the Prime Minister of Canada is conferring with the Prime Minister of Great Britain, what initiatives are being proposed? Has the Minister any information regarding this matter?" Mr. Martin replied:*

The protests were lodged with the Turkish Cypriot leadership. With regard to the discussions the Prime Minister will have on this and other questions, the Prime Minister will make a report, of course, when he returns; but the proposals that are now being discussed with the countries concerned respecting the Cyprus situation are in the stage of proposals and negotiations. Until we have had reactions from all concerned, it would be inappropriate to go any further.

*The next day Mr. Martin answered as follows an inquiry as to "what practical proposals he and his Government are making toward a solution of the crisis on the island of Cyprus":*

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my honourable friend will appreciate that when negotiations are under way it is not always desirable to give with precision the response sought in his question. But I should like to say, to the extent that it is possible to deal with this matter now, the House will recall I stated last week that, before the outbreak of fighting at Ayios Theodoros in Cyprus, Canada had been developing certain proposals for early action through the United Nations Security Council, designed to enable the UN and its special representative in Cyprus to act effectively to preserve peace on the island.

Since Sunday night we have been involved in a series of contacts in Ankara, Athens, Nicosia, London, Ottawa and Washington, together with representatives of the United States and the United Kingdom, designed to assist in clarifying the positions and proposals of the two main parties to one another so there is no misunderstanding of a kind which could produce a catastrophe, and so that each may consider the ideas of the other with a view to evolving a compromise which is being sought at this very moment.

As the public statements of the parties have indicated, the points at issue with which the Canadian approaches have been concerned . . . include such topics as the presence of both Greek and Turkish forces on the island, the extensive military preparations that have been made by Turkey, and the question of the kind of role the United Nations could play within Cyprus to assist the authorities of that island and help bring about peaceful conditions.

The purpose of the consultations is also to see if there is any basis for moving from a solution of the immediate crisis which is before us toward some more large-scale solution of the basic issues at a later stage. We are examining this together with the nature of the role of the United Nations at the present time in Cyprus. Consultations that we have had, which I referred to yesterday, in Ankara and in Greece have not yet revealed any agreement, but these contacts are continuing.