

manufacturing industry necessary to provide expanded employment opportunities for our growing population. We are not, of course, concerned only with trade in manufactured goods, but also with securing better terms of access for foodstuffs and industrial raw materials through the reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade. Finally, we are anxious that the negotiations should provide increased opportunities to the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America to increase their earnings from foreign trade, and thus promote the economic development that is vital to them. We are hopeful that these objectives will be achieved during the coming months.

QUESTION (9):

What has been Ottawa's role in concluding the cultural and technical agreement between Paris and Quebec and in the agreement on the status of the delegation of Quebec in Paris?

ANSWER:

With regard to the first part of your question, it is a matter that is still being examined, and for some time we have been in close contact with the authorities of the Province of Quebec and with the French Government on this question. I hope to be able to announce soon that it has been brought to a happy conclusion. During my last meeting with Mr. Couve de Murville on December 13, we both expressed the wish to see cultural exchanges between Canada and France intensified. To that end, we have decided to begin negotiations soon on the conclusion of an enabling agreement in this field, and I am convinced that the country as a whole will benefit from it.

Concerning the status of the delegation of Quebec, Mr. Couve de Murville and myself are both pleased that our Governments have been able to agree that the delegation in Paris should have privileges and immunities comparable to those which are accorded Canadian provincial representatives in London.

I have made it a point to thank specially the French Government for this decision, which will enable the delegation of the Province of Quebec the better to fulfill its future role.

QUESTION (10):

Is the Cyprus problem close to a settlement? What is the Canadian participation in the peace-keeping operations on the island? What solution does Ottawa advocate?

ANSWER:

The United Nations peace-keeping operation in Cyprus has brought about a considerable improvement in the situation on the island in recent months. Tension between the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities has decreased and there has been some return to more normal conditions.