

into something more durable. If this is not done, peacekeeping will only perpetuate an uneasy status quo which in due course is likely to break down as it did in Cyprus. There, despite the presence of the peacekeeping force, fighting on an unprecedented scale finally occurred because the fundamental political problem remained unresolved. In addition, if the contributors to peacekeeping are faced with indefinite prolongation of their hazardous task, governments and their peoples, feeling themselves caught in a seemingly fruitless endeavour, will be less willing to respond to future requests to take part in peacekeeping operations. Although Canadians continue to appreciate the importance of peacekeeping, they are less inclined today to accept without question the burden of participation. Eleven years is a long time and, although negotiations towards a settlement were recently renewed, the end is not yet in sight.

It may be that we should also alter our approach to peacekeeping and peacemaking. Canada has traditionally followed the policy that to be effective in peacekeeping it is essential to remain *persona grata* with the two sides to the dispute and consequently to avoid becoming involved in the peacemaking process. Perhaps our experience in Cyprus has shown that we should, as circumstances warrant, seek to take a more active part in peacemaking. We could, for example, seek more actively to find ways of moving negotiations in the right direction, and we could be more forceful in our reminders to those directly engaged in negotiations that our participation in peacekeeping has its limits.

Another problem in peacekeeping is the lack of adequate financial support from the international community. This has put an unfair burden on countries like Canada which are perennial contributors. More effective arrangements must be found in order to ensure a sound financial foundation and a broader sharing of the burden among members of the international community.

The majority of regular contributors to peacekeeping forces to date have come from a relatively small number of countries which may be roughly described as western. There is a real need to broaden the base of participation and to involve a more representative cross-section of the U.N. membership. This would ease the burden for those who have been regular participants in peacekeeping. But equally important it would help to produce among U.N. members a greater understanding of and support for this important U.N. activity.