

STATEMENT DISCOURS

SECRETARY
OF STATE
FOR EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS.

SECRÉTAIRE
D'ÉTAT AUX
AFFAIRES
EXTÉRIEURES.



July 20, 1974 ²⁵

STATEMENT BY
THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
THE HONOURABLE MITCHELL SHARP

CYPRUS - CURRENT SITUATION

Statement by the Secretary of State for External Affairs,
The Honourable Mitchell Sharp

CYPRUS - CURRENT SITUATION

On behalf of Canada, which is a contributor to the United Nations Forces in Cyprus, I wish to reiterate our deep concern over the situation in Cyprus resulting from the coup d'état led by the Greek officers of the National Guard. My concern is deepened by the further deterioration of the situation in the area following on military intervention by Turkey.

I indicated in my statement of July 18 that if the current crisis on Cyprus is to be resolved in a peaceful manner and if the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Cyprus are to be maintained, close cooperation will be required on the part of the United Kingdom, Greek and Turkish Governments, which are parties to the Treaty of Guarantee with Cyprus.

In order to avoid further bloodshed and obtain a negotiated settlement of the crisis, I am convinced that those three Governments must immediately fulfil their obligation to consult together in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Guarantee.

Accordingly I have today directed a specific and urgent appeal to the Governments of Greece and Turkey to respond to the invitation of the Government of the United Kingdom to consult together under that Treaty in order to achieve a cessation of the hostilities and to accept their joint responsibility for seeking a just and peaceful solution to the current crisis in Cyprus. I have also appealed to the Greek and Turkish Governments to avoid any further action which would prejudice the chances of a negotiated settlement.

In addition I have sent messages to other interested governments urging their support of this effort for peace and have spoken personally this afternoon with British Foreign Secretary Callaghan.

The Canadian Government welcomes the efforts of the United Nations Security Council to achieve a cease-fire on Cyprus.

All Canadians want peace in Cyprus. I am particularly aware of the special concerns of those Canadians who have their origins in that country and those who have relatives serving with the Canadian contingent in the United Nations Force in Cyprus. I can assure them that we are supporting every effort to stop the fighting and achieve a negotiated settlement.

July 20, 1974

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT CONCERNING CANADIANS IN CYPRUS

The consular officers whom we have sent to the Island, with help from our UN Contingent, are doing everything they can to assist the estimated 150 remaining Canadian civilians who were not able to leave yesterday.

A warning was given on Thursday to Canadians who had no compelling reason to remain in Cyprus, to leave the Island as quickly as possible. Since then, the BBC and British radio facilities in Cyprus have been broadcasting warnings to UK and other foreign tourists. From the messages we have received, it is clear that Canadian British and other components of the UN Force in Cyprus are taking care of foreign tourists. A report from our own DND indicates that 300 of them including Canadians have gathered at the Canadian contingent base camp near Nicosia.

Plans are now being put into effect to provide military aircraft, since the commercial flights are not available. At present, two Canadian Armed Forces aircraft are standing by in Cairo for this purpose.

My Department is receiving numerous calls from persons who are worried about friends and relatives in Cyprus, in Greece and in Turkey. The information concerning these persons is being passed to our personnel in Cyprus and to our Embassies in Athens and Ankara. As soon as specific information about persons is available it will be relayed to families and friends in Canada. Because of the pressure being placed on communications facilities, I would not expect, however, that messages of this nature will be available for some time.