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TWENTY-THIRD YEAR

**1432**<sup>nd</sup> MEETING: 18 JUNE 1968

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#### NOTE

*Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.*

Documents of the Security Council (symbol S/. . .) are normally published in quarterly *Supplements of the Official Records of the Security Council*. The date of the document indicates the supplement in which it appears or in which information about it is given.

The resolutions of the Security Council, numbered in accordance with a system adopted in 1964, are published in yearly volumes of *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council*. The new system, which has been applied retroactively to resolutions adopted before 1 January 1965, became fully operative on that date.

## FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND MEETING

Held in New York on Tuesday, 18 June 1968, at 3.30 p.m.

*President:* Mr. Arthur J. GOLDBERG  
(United States of America).

*Present:* The representatives of the following States: Algeria, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Hungary, India, Pakistan, Paraguay, Senegal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

### Provisional agenda (S/Agenda/1432)

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Letter dated 26 December 1963 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/5488):  
Report by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Cyprus (S/8622).

### Adoption of the agenda

*The agenda was adopted.*

**Letter dated 26 December 1963 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/5488):**  
**Report by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Cyprus (S/8622)**

1. The PRESIDENT: Requests have been received from the representatives of Cyprus, Turkey and Greece to be invited to participate in the Council's discussion this afternoon. Therefore, in accordance with the usual practice of the Council, I propose now, with the consent of the Council, to invite those three representatives to take places at the Council table in order to participate in the discussion without right of vote.

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Z. Rossides (Cyprus), Mr. O. Eralp (Turkey) and Mr. D. S. Bitsios (Greece) took places at the Council table.*

2. The PRESIDENT: The Security Council will now begin its examination of the question on the agenda, in connexion with which the Secretary-General has submitted a report [S/8622], on the United Nations Operation in Cyprus, for the period from 9 March to 7 June 1968.

3. Pursuant to consultations which have been held among the members of the Council, and in accordance with the requests of several of those members, a draft resolution has been prepared which I shall now ask the Under-Secretary-General to read to the Council.

4. Mr. NESTERENKO (Under-Secretary-General for Political and Security Council Affairs): With your permission, Mr. President, I shall read out the text of the draft resolution:

*"The Security Council,*

*"Noting from the report of the Secretary-General of 11 June 1968 [S/8622] that in the present circumstances the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus is still needed if peace is to be maintained in the island,*

*"Noting that the Government of Cyprus has agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions in the island it is necessary to continue the Force beyond 26 June 1968,*

*"Noting, from the observations in the report, the encouraging recent developments in the island,*

*"1. Reaffirms its resolutions 186 (1964) of 4 March, 187 (1964) of 13 March, 192 (1964) of 20 June, 193 (1964) of 9 August, 194 (1964) of 25 September and 198 (1964) of 18 December 1964, 201 (1965) of 19 March, 206 (1965) of 15 June, 207 (1965) of 10 August and 219 (1965) of 17 December 1965, 220 (1966) of 16 March, 222 (1966) of 16 June and 231 (1966) of 15 December 1966, 238 (1967) of 19 June and 244 (1967) of 22 December 1967 and 247 (1968) of 18 March 1968, and the consensus expressed by the President at the 1143rd meeting on 11 August 1964 and at the 1383rd meeting on 24 November 1967;*

*"2. Urges the parties concerned to act with the utmost restraint and to continue determined co-operative efforts to achieve the objectives of the Security Council by availing themselves in a constructive manner of the present auspicious climate and opportunities;*

*"3. Extends once more the stationing in Cyprus of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force, established under Security Council resolution 186 (1964), for a further period ending 15 December 1968, in the expectation that by then sufficient progress towards a final solution will make possible a withdrawal or substantial reduction of the Force."*

5. The PRESIDENT: Before calling on those members of the Security Council who have asked to speak before the vote, and with their consent, I shall first call on the representative of Cyprus, Ambassador Rossides.

6. Mr. ROSSIDES (Cyprus): Mr. President, may I take this opportunity to convey to you, on behalf of my delegation,

a message of regard and esteem on the occasion of your relinquishing your duties as Permanent Representative of the United States. The United Nations will long remember your legal wisdom in your interventions, your cordial manner and your negotiating abilities and tact, as well as your sense of duty to the world community so amply demonstrated during the three years of your service with this international Organization. Our best wishes will follow you in your new endeavours.

7. The Security Council meets again to renew the mandate of the United Nations Force in Cyprus on a still more hopeful tone. Before us is the report of the Secretary-General [S/8622] for the three-month period ending 26 June. The note of optimism that marked the report for the previous period [S/8446]<sup>1</sup> is carried forward in the present report; it is due to the continuing calm in the Island and the recent encouraging developments in the establishment of a direct line of communication and consultation between the Greek and Turkish leadership.

8. During this period also there were no military clashes whatsoever and incidents that might jeopardize an improving political atmosphere were carefully avoided. It has thus become possible to arrange the first meaningful exchanges of views and consultations between the two sides since the beginning of the troubles in 1963.

9. Mention should be made in this respect of the commendable role played by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Osorio-Tafall, whose persistent efforts helped considerably towards this result.

10. The report shows—and it is a very lucid and clear picture of the situation—that the Government pacification measures have very greatly contributed to the present auspicious climate and situation. Their full implementation was verified by the UNFICYP, which kept them under close observation. All these measures, as stated in the report, were well received and welcomed by the Turkish Cypriots. Furthermore, the manner in which they have been implemented and the total absence of any incidents have helped to dispel the phantom of fear created by four years of self-isolation and hostility. It is encouraging to see the example given in the report [S/8622, para. 64] of a Sunday in May when 3,000 Turkish Cypriots came out of the enclaves to visit their own fields and by-ways and familiar places.

11. It is clear from the report that as far as Government measures are concerned, the freedom of movement of all Turkish Cypriots in every part of the Island is complete and in no way restricted. Any continuing restriction would come from another side. The report states:

“At the present time, the only restrictions on the freedom of movement of the population in Cyprus are those which continue to be applied in the areas under Turkish Cypriot control. . . . no Greek Cypriot is allowed to enter Turkish-Cypriot-held areas unless authorized to do so. . . . As to Turkish Cypriots, they are still required to observe certain formalities when passing through the Turkish Cypriot barriers.” [Ibid., para. 65.]

12. It is, therefore, regrettable that there has still been no response to the pacification measures of the Government on the part of the Turkish Cypriot leadership. The restrictions from the side of the Turkish Cypriot enclaves continue in full force. But the need of abolishing those restrictions was specially emphasized by the Secretary-General and was given a paramount place in his outline of initiatives that “should be taken without delay”, report of March 1968, which added:

“(i) Now that the Government of Cyprus has extended its normalization measures to the whole of Cyprus, the Turkish Cypriot leadership should find it possible to make those necessary concessions for a full return to normal conditions and, as a first step, to abandon its policy of preventing Greek Cypriots from moving freely in the Turkish-Cypriot-controlled areas.” [S/8466, para. 155].

13. Yet, as appears from the Secretary-General's observations in his present report dated 11 June 1968:

“. . . despite the Government's normalization measures and their beneficial effects on the Turkish Cypriot population, their leadership has not yet found it possible to respond with measures of its own so as to further a steady movement towards normality.” [S/8622, para. 95.]

It is added, however, that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General was given to understand by the Turkish Cypriot leadership that the matter is under active consideration and that he is hopeful that positive elements in this respect will be forthcoming shortly.

14. We add our hope and our trust that such necessary developments will not be further delayed.

15. As to the dangers of military confrontation because of the still continuing close proximity of opposing armed forces to one another, the report, while referring to a few instances of withdrawal of the national guard units, points out that: “. . . it is unlikely that the Government will significantly extend further its unilateral withdrawals, so long as the Turkish Cypriot leadership does not take some pacifying measures of its own.” [Ibid., para. 32.]

16. However, notwithstanding the lack of any such response so far, the Government of Cyprus is determined to go on in a spirit of goodwill and trust with its pacification policy. The President, Archbishop Makarios, declared on 19 May that:

“. . . despite the misgivings caused among the Greek population by the negative way in which the Turkish Cypriots have so far responded to the pacification measures, the Government wished to believe that Turkish Cypriot leadership will eventually decide ‘to move in our direction to meet us’;”—and the President said—“. . . we shall continue our pacification efforts and shall keep the door open for talks, being ready to attend such talks with an open mind, sincerity and a spirit of goodwill”.

Goodwill necessarily engenders goodwill. If it is pursued, it will give its reward. It is our hope that the Turkish-Cypriot

<sup>1</sup> Official Records of the Security Council, Twenty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1968.

leadership in a response of goodwill and trust will take the hand stretched out to it in brotherhood.

17. The report expresses the hope that: "... the new atmosphere created will be allowed to evolve into one of greater trust and confidence, which are essential to the growth of a spirit of conciliation and understanding." [Ibid., para. 51.]

18. A new spirit of conciliation and understanding must prevail, leading to a solution of the problem in conformity with the universally accepted principles of the Charter and the relevant United Nations resolutions, so that peace and progress may come to the sorely tried people of Cyprus. Such development will greatly benefit all sections of the population of this small island. Their closely knit interdependence, more particularly in the economic field, makes still more obvious the need for their unity and co-operation as parts of a single and undivided whole. The second five-year development plan which deals with all sectors of the Island's economic and social activity, with an investment estimated at £186 million, as declared by the Minister of Finance, would bring full benefit to the Turkish community in a unitary Cyprus.

19. We therefore look with confidence and reasoned optimism to the talks which, according to the report, are scheduled to be held in Cyprus beginning on 24 June between high level representatives of the two sides, under the auspices of the Secretary-General through his Special Representative in Cyprus, and about which the people of Cyprus have high hopes. The exercise of reason in a sense of justice and enlightened patriotism towards the achievement of a just and peaceful solution of the problem not only will prove to the vital interest of the Cypriot people themselves, but will also serve as an example of needed adjustment to the demands of national and international norms in our present age. It will thus be a factor of peace in our troubled area and in the world. A peaceful and progressive Cyprus might thus be enabled to carry forward within its modest means a philosophic heritage and an historic destiny as a link of international understanding, unity and peace.

20. In concluding, I wish to express our profound appreciation and gratitude to the Secretary-General for his effective United Nations leadership, and, more particularly, for his sincere and objective concern over the situation in Cyprus, and for a sound and peaceful solution of the problem. Our appreciation and thanks are also due to the Under-Secretaries-General, Mr. Bunche and Mr. Rolz-Bennett, whose devoted efforts have been invaluable. We are also grateful to the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Mr. Osorio-Tafall, a man of great experience and diplomatic ability, for the constructive work in mediation he has so persistently carried out in the Island. We should further like to convey to General Martola the expression of our esteem and regard for his efficient command of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, which so fully demonstrates the value and effectiveness of this international peace force. Lastly, our grateful thanks go to those countries whose contributions in military contingents and in funds make possible the United Nations peace-keeping operations in Cyprus.

21. The PRESIDENT: I wish to thank Ambassador Rossides for his contribution to this debate and to thank

him personally for the more than kind references to myself. This will be the tenth meeting on Cyprus in which I have participated during the past three years, and I have always admired the courtesy with which all the representatives of the Governments concerned have expressed themselves in a most difficult situation.

22. The next speaker is the representative of Turkey, to whom I give the floor.

23. Mr. ERALP (Turkey): The Security Council has never met to consider the question of Cyprus in more auspicious and encouraging circumstances. We, the parties to the dispute, as well as everyone concerned with the peace of our area, are beginning to hope that we may at last see the light at the end of the tunnel. Two outstanding Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders have already had a preliminary meeting in Beirut and are scheduled to begin a series of meetings next Monday. These meetings are, of course, exploratory and intended to lay the groundwork for a final peaceful and agreed settlement of the problem as envisaged in the 4 March 1964 resolution of the Security Council, which will ultimately necessitate a solemn agreement between all the parties concerned. Nevertheless they are, if I may quote a phrase from the present report of the Secretary-General, "an important step towards a settlement of the Cyprus problem".

24. It has been a long journey that has brought us to this encouraging stage. In counting our blessings, we must give thanks where thanks are due. In the first place, my Government and delegation are deeply appreciative of the wisdom, patience and constant objectivity of the Secretary-General and his immediate advisers. We are grateful to General Martola, the Commander of UNFICYP, for his energetic efforts to maintain peace on the troubled Island, and we wish to extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Osorio-Tafall, the able Special Representative of the Secretary-General, for his untiring endeavours to bring about a return to normal conditions in the Island and to prepare an atmosphere in which negotiation may take the place of brute force for the solution of the dispute. It is not too much to say that, but for his impartial, delicate and diplomatic handling of any incidental problems, the inter-community talks could never have got off the ground.

25. We must also express our gratitude to those countries which, by contributing contingents or financial support, have made it possible for UNFICYP to carry out its mandate.

26. I should like to add here that the continuing presence of UNFICYP until a final solution has been reached is of utmost importance for the peace of the area. In our view, the presence in full strength and maximum effectiveness of the peace-keeping force in Cyprus, without any substantial reduction in numbers or equipment, is essential to bolster the present efforts towards a negotiated settlement and to provide the sense of security which the Turkish community must continue to enjoy in the course of the talks. In that connexion, while maintaining our optimism, we must not lose sight of the contingency referred to in paragraph 37 of the Secretary-General's report as to the possibilities of increased tension and, possibly, new incidents if all should not go well with the talks. We are fully in agreement with

the Secretary-General's recommendation to the Council for the extension of the mandate of the Force for a period of six months in order to give the negotiators full scope to tackle in tranquillity the many complex problems they have to face. Mr. Denktas, the President of the Turkish Communal Chamber, who is conducting the inter-communal negotiations on the Turkish side, said, upon landing in Nicosia last Thursday: "We must not waste time but we must not be limited by time".

27. My Government, for its part, has pledged itself to lend full support to the inter-communal talks in the hope that they may lead to a final peaceful solution of the problem taking into account the legitimate rights of all the parties to the dispute.

28. Within the present atmosphere of conciliation and understanding, if I have to make a few observations on certain questions raised in the Secretary-General's report, I hope they will not be taken amiss. They will be intended not as recriminations but as suggestions and explanations offered in a constructive spirit with a view to bringing further improvement to the prevailing conditions.

29. In the first place I wish to express my Government's satisfaction at the measures of normalization recently taken by the Greek Cypriot Administration. They have gone a long way towards preparing the ground for the present inter-communal talks. These measures constitute mainly the unilateral raising of a wide range of restrictions which had been unilaterally imposed on the Turkish community. The Turkish community, for its part, will be prepared to take counter-measures of normalization as and when a sense of security is firmly established. It would not be realistic to expect them to let down their guard overnight after the harrowing experience of the past four-and-a-half years when they have been carrying on a struggle for survival. However—and here I find myself inadvertently quoting Mr. Rossides—goodwill breeds goodwill, and as time heals the wounds more constructive steps can be taken towards true normalization.

30. It will be recalled that the previous report of the Secretary-General, that of 9 March 1968 [S/8446], in paragraphs 49 to 51, recounted the claims of the Turkish community, pursued through UNFICYP, to obtain compensation for the loss of life and property suffered by the victims of the events of Kophinou and Ayios Theodoros last November and reported that the Greek Cypriot Administration was studying the matter. It is with regret that we note from the present report [S/8622, para. 56], that the Administration has now decided not to entertain those claims, on the ground that much loss of life and property had been suffered since 1963 and that it would not now be fair to isolate this particular case. We submit that it would be unfair not to isolate this particular case where members of the Turkish community alone were the sole sufferers of an unprovoked attack. A speedy and humanitarian approach to this problem would go a long way towards building the bridges between the two communities in the Island and a tangible preparation for better days ahead. Therefore I urge the Greek Cypriot Administration to reconsider this matter not in the light of the past but in anticipation of the future and to bring prompt succour to the victimized Turkish citizens of Cyprus.

31. In the same manner, I should like solemnly to urge the Greek-Cypriot leadership to effect a thoroughgoing investigation of the tragic assassination of two Turks who are referred to in paragraphs 43 to 45 of the report. Prompt action on the part of the Administration, including not only the bringing of the culprits to justice but also the payment of indemnity to the families of the deceased, just as if the victims were Greeks and not Turks, would provide significant testimony to the goodwill of the Administration and to its statesmanlike approach to the new era that is now being ushered in.

32. Finally, I have to refer to a matter which goes to the very root of the sense of security with which the Turkish community must be provided if the present atmosphere is to prevail. I refer to the heavy and light weapons which the Greek Cypriot Administration imported to the Island in December 1966. The Council will recall the tangible increase in tension and worsening of the situation which was incurred as a result of that move and the concern which the Secretary-General expressed in his addendum to the report of 8 December 1966 [S/7611/Add.1].<sup>2</sup>

33. The Council has also been seized of the present situation with regard to these weapons in paragraphs 26 to 31 of the report now under consideration. I shall not go into an analysis of those paragraphs inasmuch as they clearly show that, in spite of the attempts of UNFICYP to maintain all such weapons, without distinction between light and heavy, under control and inspection, the Greek Cypriot Administration has now declared its clear intention to distribute all of what it considers light arms before the end of the year. The Turkish Community cannot acquiesce in that decision. Nor can we consider the mere mention of it in paragraph 31 of the Secretary-General's report as acquiescence on the part of the Secretary-General.

34. It is our earnest hope that UNFICYP will continue its representations with the Greek Cypriot Administration in order to dissuade it from such action, calculated to create new tensions and suspicions. In the name of my Government, as well as in the name of reason, I also call upon the Greek Cypriot leadership to reconsider such a step. We maintain the hope that the Greek Cypriot leaders are sufficiently endowed with sagacity to weigh the advantages and dangers of such a move. Is it better to distribute a few hundred new and shiny arms, many of them really heavy weapons of mass destruction; or is it wiser to exercise restraint and allow the fresh attempts at reconciliation which are now afoot to flourish? The answer to that question will materially affect the course of events in Cyprus in the months ahead.

35. In concluding my remarks, Mr. President, I hope it will not be presumptuous on my part to say a few words of appreciation as regards your person, since it appears that we may no longer enjoy the benefits of your wise guidance and advice in this Council. Although we are not a member of the Council, the vicissitudes of the problem of Cyprus have in effect turned us into a form of semi-permanent attendants of the Council. It is not, however, with semi-sincerity that I wish to say that for us who have long benefited from our association with you, your wisdom, experience, objec-

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, Twenty-first Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1966.

tivity and courage of conviction will long be remembered, and we shall cherish the hope that the shining example of statesmanship which you have set in this Council will always be followed. Much as I am tempted—as a permanent member was yesterday—to speak for two hours on this subject, I shall confine myself to saying this: the Ambassador of France said that you had the mind of a Frenchman. May I be allowed to add that, as we see it, you have the will and determination of a Turk.

36. The PRESIDENT: I wish to thank Ambassador Erap for his contribution to the debate and for his very kind references to me. If I really embodied all the virtues that are now being attributed to me by members of the Council and those who are participating in the debate, I think I would be scarcely recognizable to my family.

37. Mr. BITSIOS (Greece) (*translated from French*): I hope I shall not be overtaxing the Council's forbearance, Mr. President, if I take this opportunity to say how sorry the Greek delegation is that you are leaving the office of Permanent Representative of the United States. You have won the esteem and the admiration of all your colleagues in the United Nations, and even those who have sometimes disagreed with you do not fail to recognize your outstanding qualities—that is the clearest sign of your success. The wishes of my delegation, as also my own most sincere wishes, go with you as you leave our Organization. You leave behind you many friends and great regret at your departure.

38. On 18 March 1968, the Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution [247 (1968)] extending the stationing in Cyprus of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force for a further period of three months. At the same time the Council urged the parties concerned to "act with the utmost restraint and to continue determined co-operative efforts to achieve the objectives of the Security Council. . . ."

39. It must be recognized that we are going through a period in which the injunctions of the Security Council are not always heeded; it is therefore reassuring to note that, in the case of the latest resolution on the Cyprus question, events have moved in the direction indicated by the Council in that resolution, as can be seen from the Secretary-General's report.

40. To work for pacification and steer towards the solution of complex and explosive problems requires a spirit dedicated to the cause of peace, a heightened sense of responsibility, many sacrifices and a good measure of imagination. In this respect the Cypriot leadership has been impressively active in recent months. It has put into effect far-reaching pacification measures covering the entire territory of the Republic. It has accepted the Secretary-General's offer of his good offices and has submitted to him specific proposals on the Cyprus problem, proposals that constituted the point of departure for a method of establishing direct contacts between the two parties, as proposed by U Thant. It has authorized the return to Cyprus of Mr. Rauf Denktash, so that he might participate in those contacts. It has shown flexibility regarding the terms of an agreement on the opening of negotiations. And on the substance of the problem it has declared itself willing to support what is feasible.

41. Thus it was that the way was cleared for the encouraging developments recorded in the report of the Secretary-General which is now before the Council. The report in fact records the following findings.

42. First, the Secretary-General's appeal to the parties concerned to exercise the greatest prudence and avoid any disturbing incidents has by and large been heeded.

43. Secondly, the last three months have been marked by a further relaxation of tension and by a general desire to avoid incidents which might jeopardize an improving political atmosphere. The report expresses the hope that the new atmosphere created will be allowed to evolve into one of greater trust and confidence in the future and lead to the establishment of a spirit of conciliation and understanding. The Secretary-General adds that:

"The Government's pacification measures, particularly the lifting of all restrictions previously imposed on the movement of Turkish Cypriots and certain goods, have contributed greatly to the present situation." [S/8622, para. 51.]

"At the present time, the only restrictions on the freedom of movement of the population in Cyprus are those which continue to be applied in the areas under Turkish Cypriot control." [Ibid., para. 65.]

44. The third finding is that, thanks to this relaxation of tension, it has been possible for the first time since 1963 to organize between the two parties exchanges of views worthy of the name. The Secretary-General tells us, in fact, that as a result of the efforts of his Special Representative, Mr. Klerides and Mr. Denktash, after preliminary talks in Nicosia, met in Beirut from 2 to 5 June. The talks will be resumed in Nicosia on 24 June, and the first meeting will be opened by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. In his report U Thant states that he attaches very great importance to these talks and that he regards them as most encouraging since they mark the establishment of a direct channel of communications between the two communities for the first time in four and a half years.

45. It is hardly necessary for me to say with what satisfaction the Greek Government observes these developments, for Greece has always tried to work towards a peaceful settlement. The Council has had tangible proof of the positive action taken by the Greek Government in furtherance of this policy.

46. This progress towards a better state of affairs, this opening up of hope, has been the result of determined co-operative efforts and of work behind the scenes on a scale of which few people are aware, calling for great patience and perseverance.

47. A tribute is due to all those who have helped. I should like, however, to mention the personal contribution of U Thant. Dedicated to the cause of peace, an enemy of violence and of all kinds of fanaticism, he has not ceased for one instant to strive for the attainment of the objectives of the Security Council as set out in resolution 186 of 4 March 1964. Other crises have arisen to engross the attention of the Secretary-General and his distinguished

collaborators, yet their active interest, always accompanied by a perfect knowledge of the progress of events in Cyprus, has never lapsed for a single moment.

48. Mr. Bibiano Osorio-Tafall, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus, has shown by his untiring efforts, his patience and skill, that he is equal to the delicate task that has been entrusted to him. Without him the first contacts between the representatives of the two parties in Cyprus, which are a source of satisfaction to us today, might not have been possible. We are convinced that his activities in Cyprus will be more useful and fruitful than ever in the months to come. It is with the same feeling that we express our thanks to the Commander of the Force, General Martola.

49. All this shows beyond the shadow of a doubt how necessary and constructive the presence of the United Nations is at such difficult periods, when a crisis has arisen and has yet to be overcome.

50. It is obvious that if the talks to be resumed in Cyprus on 24 June are to have any chance of success, the two parties facing one another must show an equal spirit of goodwill and realism. It is in the interests of the objectives sought by the Security Council that the parties concerned should know that their attitudes are being watched and judged at their true value.

51. The road that still lies ahead is long. Time will be needed, and patience, and above all perseverance, on the path that has just opened. At this stage we dare not make any predictions, but it may be taken as an encouraging omen that the Greek and Turkish Cypriots have begun to discuss their common future. As Mr. Pipinelis, the Foreign Minister of Greece, has said, "it is obvious that the setting up of a new political organization in Cyprus giving satisfaction to all its inhabitants, which we trust may be the result of the present contacts, will free the present situation of existing frictions on the spot and will in itself constitute a considerable step towards the final solution."

52. In the achievement of this aim, the Security Council can once again give assistance, specifically by extending the mandate of the Force for the period indicated by the Secretary-General and by appealing to the Members of the United Nations to contribute voluntarily to the cost of maintaining it.

53. Greece is one of the Members which are contributing to the expenses of the United Nations Force in Cyprus. Its contribution has now totalled more than US\$6 million. We therefore know from experience what it costs to maintain the Force and we deeply appreciate the spirit of international solidarity shown both by the Powers that maintain contingents there and by those that contribute materially to the upkeep of the United Nations Force.

54. Today, when so many lamentable events darken the international horizon, it is good to know that in that corner of the Eastern Mediterranean the hope of a return to a normal and peaceful life is being reborn in the hearts of a people which, like all others, has a right to the good things of life.

55. The PRESIDENT: I wish to thank Ambassador Bitsios for his contribution to our debate and also for what he has had to say about me. Although I am leaving the United Nations, I am not abandoning my interest in it and in public affairs, if only to heed the famous admonition of Pericles that "He who takes no interest in public affairs is not a harmless but rather a useless character".

56. Mr. MALIK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (*translated from Russian*): The Soviet Union's position on the Cyprus question is well known. It has been repeatedly set forth in statements by the Soviet Government and in statements by its representatives, including those in the Security Council. In connexion with the new discussion of this question, the Soviet delegation considers it necessary to point out once again that the strength and meaning of its stand remain unchanged.

57. The Soviet Union has based and continues to base its attitude on the premise that the Cyprus question must and can be settled peacefully in the interests of the Cypriot people and in the interests of lessening tension in this important region. The USSR firmly supports the struggle of the Cypriots for full independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity for the Republic of Cyprus, which is a Member State of the United Nations.

58. The settlement of the domestic issues of Cyprus is the business of the Cypriots themselves. They themselves must settle their internal affairs, without intervention from outside.

59. The legitimate rights of the Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus must be fully respected by all.

60. The Soviet Union is firmly opposed to any attempts to infringe upon the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus and to intentions, not alien to certain States, to solve the Cyprus question behind the backs of the people of Cyprus, to the detriment of that people's fundamental interests and for the selfish ends of certain countries.

61. We are deeply convinced that in order to preserve fully the independence and integrity of the Republic of Cyprus all foreign troops must be removed from its territory and that foreign military bases there must be abolished. The Soviet delegation would also like to stress the need for all Member States of the United Nations, in accordance with the Security Council resolution 186 of 4 March 1964, to refrain from actions which might in any way complicate the situation in Cyprus.

62. Today the Security Council is once again considering the question of Cyprus in connexion with the report of the United Nations Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus for the period from 9 March to 7 June 1968 [S/8622]. Paragraph 97 of that report contains a recommendation to extend the presence of the armed forces in Cyprus for a further six months.

63. In this connexion we cannot overlook the following fact. More than four years have passed since those armed forces were first stationed in Cyprus; but this emergency measure has not yet led to a settlement of the Cyprus problem. This is admitted in the Secretary-General's report



to the Security Council, in which he notes, in particular, that, although the situation in Cyprus has improved somewhat and talks have begun between the two national communities with regard to a settlement of controversial problems, "the basic issues dividing the two communities have remained unresolved". [Ibid., para. 92.]

64. As for the draft resolution submitted to the Security Council, proposing an extension of the presence of the United Nations Force in Cyprus for an additional period of about six months, the Soviet delegation believes it necessary first of all to point out that this draft reaffirms the Security Council resolution 186 of 4 March 1964 and subsequent decisions of the Council on the question of Cyprus.

65. Although the Soviet Union did not consider and still does not consider the continued presence of United Nations Forces in Cyprus to be justified, it will not hinder an extension of the presence of those Forces for an additional period of approximately six months, in view of the fact that this is in accordance with the wishes of the Government of Cyprus and of other interested parties.

66. The indispensable condition for such an extension must, of course, be the strict observance of the terms of the Security Council resolution of 4 March 1964, namely the strict preservation of the present functions of the United Nations Force in Cyprus and of the present system of financing it, that is, through voluntary contributions.

67. The PRESIDENT: No further representatives are inscribed on my list to speak before the Security Council proceeds to vote on the draft resolution contained in document S/8639.

*A vote was taken by show of hands.*

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.<sup>3</sup>*

68. The PRESIDENT: Several representatives have indicated that they would like to address the Council after the vote. The first speaker inscribed is the representative of the United Kingdom, Lord Caradon, on whom I now call.

69. Lord CARADON (United Kingdom): I would first wish to thank the Secretary-General for his report. He has not failed to recognize the continuing dangers when he reminds us that "there are still thousands of men under arms in Cyprus" [S/8622, para. 91]. Nor has he engaged in any easy optimism, for he tells us that "Little progress has been made during the last three months in the matter of military disengagement." [Ibid., para. 94.]

70. He emphasizes that the proximity of the opposing armed forces constitutes a latent danger both to the improved atmosphere in Cyprus and to future progress towards a solution. He tells us that some of the initiatives he previously advocated have yet to materialize.

71. It is well that these facts should be faced. But they should not be a cause for pessimism. On the contrary, they should be a cause for reinforcing resolve to make progress

both in restoring and securing tranquil conditions in the Island, and in searching for a just and durable settlement for the future.

72. All of us, I feel sure, are convinced that now is the time for a further determined and persistent and urgent endeavour to make progress towards permanent pacification and a final settlement of the problems which have in the past bred so much bitterness and bloodshed. Uppermost in our minds is the urgency. The favourable opportunities which now exist must not be let go. This is no time to drift or delay. It is the time to set out at once on a new course and urgently to persist in it.

73. With that overriding and urgent need in mind, we were inclined to favour a shorter extension of the mandate of the United Nations Force than has today been decided. But we also recognize the necessity for showing confidence in the new moves which are now in train and giving all encouragement to them. We agreed therefore to the longer period of extension certainly not in a spirit of complacency but as an act of faith. Before Christmas comes, we trust that the barriers to a peaceful and permanent settlement will have been overcome.

74. The second consideration is the need for immediate improvement in the local situation to achieve normal conditions by following up what has already been done. What we greatly hope to see now are further practical measures for reduction of military confrontation and restoration of full freedom of movement, with a rapidly expanding and accelerating series of positive actions to restore mutual trust and confidence.

75. Thirdly, we pay renewed tribute to the work of the United Nations Force under its able and trusted Commander, General Martola. Both by its presence and its composition and by its vigilance and persistence the Force has brought great credit to all who have participated in the joint international effort, and the Force has brought credit too to the United Nations.

76. My country has made a major contribution to the Force, both by providing the largest military contingent and meeting its full costs, and by making a regular contribution at the rate of \$1 million for each three-month period. My Government is prepared to continue to make its contribution both by its military contingent and by financial subvention on the same scale. But we must all look forward to a reduction and, in the end, to the termination of this most successful peace-keeping effort, and our commitments are of course subject to subsequent developments in that direction. We trust that progress towards that end may very soon be possible.

77. Let me finally add my words to those to which we have already listened, in admiration for the efforts of Ambassador Osorio-Tafall. He has never been discouraged. He has gained and kept the confidence of all. His patience and perseverance now begin to show most welcome results. We pray that his initiative and the good sense and goodwill of both Greeks and Turks may now lead on, without interruption and without delay, to final success.

78. Mr. SHAHI (Pakistan): Mr. President, 1968 has been a year of hope for Cyprus. For the first time in four and a

<sup>3</sup> See resolution 254 (1968).

half years, a direct channel of communication between the two communities of the Island has been opened as a result of the untiring efforts of Ambassador Osorio-Tafall, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. A few days ago, two prominent leaders of the Greek and Turkish Cypriots met in Beirut and agreed to resume their talks in Nicosia as from the 24th of this month. This is one of the auspicious indications to which the Secretary-General has drawn our attention in paragraph 92 of his report [S/8622]. It is indeed a most welcome development that the leaders of the two communities have at last begun to realize that they cannot solve their dispute by force.

79. My delegation should like to pay a sincere tribute to the representatives of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey for their statesmanlike statements in this debate and for the spirit of restraint, conciliation and goodwill in which they have spoken.

80. The report of the Secretary-General mentions many measures, including the lifting of various restrictions, that have contributed to the improvement of the situation. But this hopeful turn of events is only a beginning. Basic issues dividing the two communities still remain to be resolved. As pointed out by the Secretary-General, should favourable developments in the political sphere fail to materialize, the resulting disillusionment might—if the close military confrontation in many areas is allowed to continue—give rise to increased tension and possibly new incidents.

81. It is with this concern in mind that my delegation would like to make some observations on some of the issues raised by the Secretary-General in his report.

82. In paragraph 26 of his report the Secretary-General has referred to the consignment of weapons imported by the Government of Cyprus in December 1966, which has been a cause of concern for UNFICYP. It is also a matter of concern to us that the Government of Cyprus has notified the Force Commander that it intends to distribute gradually, between July and December 1968, all the light arms now in store.

83. In the present circumstances we fear that this decision might upset the balance of forces in Cyprus and prejudice the efforts to promote a climate necessary for a reduction of forces and military disengagement.

84. We welcome the efforts of the Government of Cyprus to restore normal economic conditions. However, we also note the Secretary-General's finding that economic conditions in the Turkish Cypriot areas have not as yet significantly improved, in contrast to the continuing boom in the rest of the Island. We endorse his observation that unless some progress is made very soon in this regard, hard decisions may be taken which would render even more difficult the solution of political questions and perhaps even widen the gap between the standard of living in the Turkish Cypriot enclaves and that in the rest of the country.

85. Chapter VI of the Secretary-General's report outlines the expenses of UNFICYP and calls for pledges totalling "\$19,487,000 for a six-month extension" [S/8622, para. 90]. We hope that, as in the past, the pledges will be

commensurate with the need. We are gratified to note that the countries which have contributed troops to UNFICYP agree to a six-month extension.

86. In regard to the strength of UNFICYP, the maintenance of its full complement appears to us to be essential, at least until the inter-communal talks begin to produce positive results. We would hope that financial considerations will not lead to reductions that might turn out to have been ill-advised.

87. We have voted for the resolution that has just been adopted with those considerations in mind.

88. Before concluding, I should like to express our deep appreciation of the patient statesmanship of the Secretary-General and the untiring efforts of his Special Representative, Ambassador Osorio-Tafall; the Commander of UNFICYP, General Martola; and all those who, with such singular devotion to duty, have contributed to the creation of an improved atmosphere in the strife-torn Island.

89. Mr. IGNATIEFF (Canada): The Secretary-General's latest report on the United Nations Operation in Cyprus does indeed, as several of my colleagues have pointed out, offer new grounds for hope that a political settlement of that island's problems can be attained before many months have passed. It is, of course, particularly encouraging that a dialogue between leading personalities of the two communities in the Island has now begun. This is undoubtedly the most promising development in the Cyprus dispute since UNFICYP was established. On behalf of the Canadian delegation I wish well to the participants in that dialogue and express the hope that their important efforts in the direction of a political solution will be completely successful.

90. It is obvious that the commencement and productive continuation of such talks can only be possible against the background of an improved atmosphere throughout Cyprus. My delegation welcomes the indications given by the Secretary-General in his report of a further relaxation in tension and of a general desire to avoid incidents.

91. We would of course urge the parties concerned to stay on this path of moderation and reason. Their desire to do so on the whole seems to be confirmed by the Cyprus Government's pacification measures as well as by the conciliatory public statements made both by Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders. In this context it is clear that gestures towards normalization by one side need in time to be at least reciprocated by the other side, and that the effects of especially sensitive actions, such as those relating to the distribution of arms,—to which the Council's notice has been drawn today—must be weighed very carefully. It is only if the parties remain aware of the constant need for every effort to be made on their part for the removal of misunderstanding and the creation of confidence that progress towards the restoration of normal conditions throughout the Island can be maintained.

92. The Secretary-General quite rightly attaches great importance to the inter-communal talks which have just begun; and he has expressed the considered view that the mandate of UNFICYP should be extended for another

period as, in effect, a moderating influence in favour of stability in the Island. My delegation supports this judgement, which we know has been based on the most careful consideration of the situation in the Island and takes into account the views of his Special Representative, Mr. Osorio-Tafall, as well as of General Martola, the Commander of the United Nations Force.

93. The length of extension of the mandate is, of course, not always an easy matter to decide. Despite recent encouraging developments, the future course of events on the Island remains somewhat uncertain and the Canadian delegation felt that there was something to be said for the shorter, three-month period by which UNFICYP was extended on the last occasion; such a period might have provided a useful opportunity for Council members to keep the operation of the Force under review in the light of the evolving situation. In any case we would hope that the virtual six-month extension now granted will be understood as a measure to facilitate and not to delay the vigorous pursuit of the inter-communal talks which have just begun. For its part the Canadian Government will follow with interest the development of these talks and will review its own contribution to the Force in the light of the progress which may be made.

94. It is against that background that the Canadian delegation has been able to accept the resolution just adopted unanimously.

95. Before concluding, I should like to commend the Secretary-General and particularly his Special Representative in Cyprus, Mr. Osorio-Tafall, who has been instrumental in making the inter-communal talks possible, as well as the Commander of UNFICYP, General Martola, for their patient and continued quest for a peaceful settlement. One can only hope that their efforts will continue to be rewarded by further improvement in the situation. Towards this end I would urge the parties to maintain, and indeed further improve, their co-operation both with the Secretary-General's Special Representative and with UNFICYP.

96. Mr. BORCH (Denmark): When I spoke in the Council on 18 March this year on the occasion of the latest extension of the mandate of UNFICYP [1398th meeting], I expressed satisfaction that the period leading up to that meeting of the Council had been one of the quietest since December 1963 and that, although no tangible progress towards discussion between the parties directly concerned had as yet been made, there was a momentum towards the restoration of normalcy. It is gratifying to learn from the Secretary-General's report for the period from 9 March through 7 June that this momentum has materialized and that, along with a further relaxation of tension and the introduction of further normalization measures, for the first time in four-and-a-half years a direct channel of communication between the two communities in the Island has been established.

97. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the Secretary-General and to his Special Representative in Cyprus, Mr. Osorio-Tafall, as well as to the Commander of UNFICYP, General Martola, for their untiring efforts and for the important results achieved so far. I wish to assure them of our full support in their future endeavours.

98. The Council has now extended the mandate of UNFICYP for a period of approximately six months in accordance with the recommendation made by the Secretary-General. The inter-communal talks which are about to start will have to deal with a number of very complex problems which will not be easily solved. Therefore we join in the earnest hope expressed by the Secretary-General in his report that, in the interest of the country as a whole, both communities will find it possible to make those concessions and accommodations without which no agreement can be attained. We realize that under the circumstances the talks may be protracted. Therefore we have—although with some hesitation—accepted an extension of the mandate for six months, a period that should be long enough to allow the talks to produce some substantial results by the time we meet again.

99. In the meantime the Government of Denmark will maintain the Danish military and police contingents in UNFICYP at the disposal of the United Nations at the required strength.

100. Mr. CSATORDAY (Hungary): The Hungarian delegation wishes to explain its vote on the resolution the Council has just adopted.

101. We have read with great interest the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operations in Cyprus. We noted that the Secretary-General was in a position to report: "... the relaxation of tension in Cyprus which set in at the beginning of the year has continued during the period under review." [S/8622, para. 91.] My delegation welcomes this trend—all the more so as we have always been of the view that it is the improvement of the relations between Greek and Turkish Cypriots that the United Nations should primarily promote.

102. In this connexion, we were gratified to see in the report that certain contacts have been established between the representatives of the two communities. We share the view of the Secretary-General that this "establishment of a direct channel of communication . . . is most encouraging" and that great importance should be attached to these talks [ibid., para. 96]. We also agree with him that the task ahead is fraught with difficulties, but there is no doubt in our minds that there is no other and no better way to solve the problems confronting the people of Cyprus than to find solutions through direct contacts between the Cypriots concerned.

103. My delegation has always been convinced that the principle of self-determination must serve as a basis for such a solution. It is for that reason that we have had doubts about the advisability of stationing foreign military personnel in Cyprus and expecting that their presence would somehow lead to a solution of the problems confronting the people of the Island. Our reservations about an extension of the mandate of UNFICYP for a further period of almost six months have not changed. Our positive vote on the draft resolution, therefore, should in no way be interpreted as an expression of views favouring the long-term stationing of foreign military personnel in an independent Member State of the United Nations. However, since the Secretary-General has clearly indicated—and this is reflected in the resolution—that during the coming period

of approximately six months sufficient progress towards a final solution will make possible a withdrawal or substantial reduction of the United Nations Force, we felt that our affirmative vote this time would make it possible to help bring the United Nations operation to an end within a reasonably short time.

104. Finally, my delegation has voted for the resolution with the clear understanding that the financing of the United Nations operation in Cyprus during this period will be based on the principles contained in resolution 186 (1964) of March 1964.

105. The PRESIDENT: I now call on the representative of Cyprus, who wishes to exercise the right of reply.

106. Mr. ROSSIDES (Cyprus): I am sorry to have to take the floor again, but it has been made necessary because of the remarks made by the representative of Turkey, which I believe call for a reply and for a statement of the position of the Government of Cyprus on certain matters.

107. First, I should like to deal with the question of the arms. It must be made clear that Cyprus is a sovereign State—it is so recognized in the Security Council resolution of 4 March 1964—and it has the responsibility for the maintenance and restoration of law and order. This is an inherent right of the Government of Cyprus, and it has not been interfered with by the resolution. On the contrary, it has been reaffirmed by operative paragraph 2 of the resolution, which states:

“Asks the Government of Cyprus, which has the responsibility for the maintenance and restoration of law and order, to take all additional measures necessary to stop violence and bloodshed in Cyprus;”.

This responsibility for the maintenance of law and order carries with it a responsibility for having a police force. The police must be armed, and it is for the Government to decide whether the arms need to be modernized or changed because they are old and unusable. It is for no one else to interfere in this internal affair of the Government of Cyprus. I want to make that very clear. I have stated this before in the Security Council when I rejected any suggestion for interference with this right of the Government of Cyprus to administer its police force.

108. Secondly, I should like to mention that the Government of Cyprus has of its own accord, and in the spirit of co-operation with the Secretary-General and with UNFICYP, consented to give information about the weapons it has imported, but that is not in any sense a diminution of its sovereign right as a Government in regard to the administration of its police force.

109. My third point is the following. In the *aide-mémoire* of the Secretary-General dated 10 January 1967 on this matter it is stated that:

“... measures taken by the Government of Cyprus now in effect whereby the recently imported arms have been kept uncrated be maintained as long as possible, and General Martola, Commander UNFICYP, will continue to effect periodic inspections of the uncrated arms. In the

event the Government of Cyprus were to decide, however, to issue some of these arms, it would undertake to maintain under lock and key that part of the recently imported arms consisting of heavier weapons not normally issued to police forces.”

110. In reply to that *aide-mémoire*, the Government of Cyprus said that it would not for the time being issue any such arms, but would inform UNFICYP the moment it decided to do so.

111. The Government has now informed UNFICYP that it will issue—not heavy arms—but light arms, which are definitely arms for the police. That is in conformity with the understanding with the Secretary-General on this matter.

112. The next point I should like to make on this question of arms is relevant to something I said in my statement earlier this afternoon. It is made clear in the Secretary-General's report that there has been no effort on the part of the Turkish Cypriot armed enclaves to co-operate towards pacification. On the contrary, the report states that: “... the undiminished vigilance and activeness of the Turkish Cypriot fighters and their frequent appearance on their positions have led to a certain increased wariness on the part of the National Guard...” [S/8622, para. 17]—and this at a time when the other side has been making withdrawals from inland outposts, which, as is stated in paragraph 17 of the report, is consistent with the Government's normalization measures. Those normalization measures are praised throughout the report.

113. I might have been able to understand the suggestions made by the representative of Turkey if there had been at least some evidence of willingness on the part of the Turkish “fighters” to lay down their arms or if they had demonstrated less activeness at the armed posts. Unfortunately, that has not been the case. Hence, I do not think that it can be suggested for a moment that police arms should not be replenished. The police has a good record; that is clear from the report. Throughout this period in which the normalization measures have been applied, there have been no searches; there have been no attempts of any kind to disturb the free movement of the Turkish Cypriots.

114. There was one solitary case of a search, on the basis of information available. It was made because it had been found that machine-guns, sub-machine guns and rounds of ammunition hidden under sacks were being conveyed by the Turkish Cypriots from one part of the Island to another. It had not been my intention to mention this, but I have to do so now. The Secretary-General's report states that:

“A further incident that undeniably caused alarm occurred on 15 May and, were it not for the prudence displayed by the Government and by the Turkish Cypriot leadership, might have had serious consequences, when a Turkish Cypriot lorry travelling south from Nicosia to Ktima was stopped by the Cyprus police on the basis of information received and, upon being searched, was found to contain two light machine-guns, five sub-machine guns, and more than 3,000 rounds of ammunition hidden under sacks.” [Ibid., para. 35.]

115. That was a matter of great concern to us, but in our efforts to continue the pacification measures, we did not say that this was an abuse of the freedom of movement under those measures.

116. Another point raised by the representative of Turkey was that two Turks were killed by members of the National Guard—one on 26 May and the other on 6 June. As is clear from the report, both those men were armed and were using their arms for an illegal purpose. The matter is *sub judice*. I agree that every effort should be made to determine the circumstances. The person or persons who led the shooting, in one case and the other, should be prosecuted and punished, irrespective of whether their ethnic origin is Greek or Turkish. That is the essence of proper government. I am glad to say that this matter is being thoroughly and urgently investigated at the special direction of the Minister of the Interior. The case of the transportation of arms is also under investigation.

117. I understand that the Turkish Cypriot leadership offered to conduct its own investigation to determine who was responsible for the transportation of arms, already mentioned.

118. All these aspects have to be dealt with in a spirit of goodwill and sincerity. I trust and hope that the sincerity that the Government has shown in this respect will also be shown by the Turkish Cypriot leadership, so that we can move forward to a solution of the problem in a spirit of co-operation and understanding, brushing aside all the large or small misgivings that may arise from various incidents during this time.

119. The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of Turkey in exercise of his right of reply.

20. Mr. ERALP (Turkey): It is with great regret that I have asked to speak once again, but I feel it necessary to reply very briefly to the remarks just made by Ambassador Rossides.

21. I am dismayed to see that the appeal I made in my opening remarks for reason, moderation and conciliation have fallen upon deaf ears, at least so far as Ambassador Rossides is concerned.

22. With regard to the question I raised, I do hope that his will not be the final word of the Greek Cypriot Administration and that its actions in the coming months will be more conciliatory than the remarks we have just heard. I refer, of course, to the arms that it is now intended to distribute to the Cypriot police. It is not a question of mere exercise of sovereignty that is at stake here. When the Secretary-General expressed concern in the addendum [S/7611/Add.1] to his report of December 1966, the matter was an international issue. His concern was

expressed in the name of the international community. We cannot hide behind the exercise of sovereignty in flouting the concerns and misgivings of the international community. It was in that spirit that I urged the Greek Cypriot Administration to refrain from these acts at such a time.

123. It is very well to say that the police have to maintain law and order. But we wonder to what extent the performance of that function covers the shooting in the back of defenceless people. For in both these cases paragraph 44 of the report makes it clear that the victims had been shot from behind while running to safety.

124. Perhaps a little more clarification as to the nature of these weapons is due. They are not mere police weapons used for the maintenance of law and order in criminal cases, but they are largely machine guns and even grenade-launchers, which can only be used in intercommunal strife.

125. This is a matter of grave concern and it was in the spirit of conciliation that I suggested that such distribution should not take place at such a time. I have noticed that members of the Council, in their statements, have also taken up that question.

126. Ambassador Rossides also referred loosely to the laying down of their arms by the Turkish fighters. We maintain the hope that the time will come when all arms illegally carried by all personnel in Cyprus will be laid down. But if that is to take place, I think the lead should be taken by the National Guard.

127. The PRESIDENT: I have no further speakers inscribed, and therefore our debate is concluded. I am sure, from our unanimous vote in support of the resolution, that all members of the Council are gratified with the encouraging recent developments in the Island. We earnestly hope that all concerned, as the resolution clearly contemplates, will continue their efforts to resolve their differences in a spirit of goodwill, conciliation, moderation and magnanimity.

128. This spirit will make possible a solution of the Cyprus problem, a solution which will reflect great credit upon the two communities in Cyprus, upon the Governments which have participated in our debate, and upon the United Nations which since 1964, under the leadership of our distinguished Secretary-General, has played such an important and indispensable role in seeking to resolve this problem.

129. On the optimistic note that a final solution may be near at hand, if there is no objection, I will declare the meeting adjourned.

*The meeting rose at 5.25 p.m.*

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