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TELEGRAM NUMBER 209 OF 4 AUGUST 1980

AND TO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, ATHENS, ANKARA, UKMIS NEW YORK,
BONN, PARIS, TRIPOLI, MODUK (PLEASE PASS DS11), AND CBFC.
INFO SAVING UKDEL NATO.

Prime Minister

MAD

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MY TELEGRAM 202: **CYPRUS: LIBYAN INITIATIVE.**

1. **THE LIBYANS HAVE BEEN KEEPING UP THEIR PRESSURE FOR A SUMMIT MEETING IN TRIPOLI.** THE LIBYAN MINISTER OF INFORMATION, HIJAZI, ARRIVED ON 31 JULY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH BOTH SIDES. IN HIS PUBLIC STATEMENT AT THE AIRPORT HIJAZI TOOK IT FOR GRANTED THAT THE MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

2. GORGE TOLD ME TODAY THAT HIJAZI HAS TOLD BOTH SIDES THAT **WALDHEIM HAS NOW AGREED TO A MEETING ON 7 SEPTEMBER.** HIJAZI INDICATED THAT **LIBYA WANTS THE MEETING TO TAKE PLACE WHETHER OR NOT THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ARE RESUMED AND HAS THREATENED NOT TO LEAVE UNTIL BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED TO ATTEND.** ROLANDIS TOLD GORGE ON THE TELEPHONE OVER THE WEEKEND THAT ALL THIS WAS PROOF THAT, **WHATEVER LIBYA'S MOTIVES, THE PRIMARY CONCERN WAS NOT THE BEST INTERESTS OF CYPRUS.**

3. THE EFFECT, GORGE SAID, HAS BEEN TO CONCENTRATE MINDS ON BOTH SIDES WONDERFULLY. GOBBI HAS BEEN PRESSING BOTH KYPRIANOU AND DENKTASH TO ACCEPT AN UPDATED VERSION OF THE OPENING STATEMENT WHICH RETAINS THE ESSENTIALS OF THE VERSION PEREZ DE CUELLAR TRIED TO SELL TO BOTH SIDES DURING HIS RECENT VISIT. KYPRIANOU IS STILL HESITATING SINCE, APPARENTLY UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MRS PALLEY, HIS BRITISH CONSTITUTIONAL ADVISER, HE BELIEVES THAT THE PRESENT VERSION COULD LATER BE REPRESENTED BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS AS PAVING THE WAY FOR A CONFEDERAL SOLUTION. GOBBI IS SEEKING TO SURMOUNT THIS OBJECTION BY INTRODUCING THE OPENING STATEMENT WITH A SHORT STATEMENT OF HIS OWN IN WHICH HE WILL REFER TO THE AIM OF BOTH SIDES AS BEING A FEDERAL REPUBLIC. KYPRIANOU'S ADVISERS ARE MEETING TO CONSIDER THIS THIS MORNING. IF THEY AGREE, KYPRIANOU INTENDS TO CALL A NATIONAL COUNCIL LATER TODAY. IF, AFTER THIS, KYPRIANOU ACCEPTS THE NEW GOBBI

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FORMULA, GOBBI INTENDS TO SEE DENKTASH TOMORROW WHEN HE WILL REFER IN GENERAL TERMS TO THE IDEA OF MAKING A FEW INTRODUCTORY REMARKS OF HIS OWN. HE WILL NOT REPEAT NOT GIVE DENKTASH ANY DETAILS OF WHAT THESE MIGHT BE.

4. WHEN I ASKED HIM HOW HE RATED GOBBI'S CHANCES OF SUCCESS, GORGE REPLIED THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE STILL AS ANXIOUS AS EVER TO GET OFF THE LIBYAN HOOK. DENKTASH TOO HAD TOLD GOBBI LAST WEEK THAT HE DID NOT FAVOUR A MEETING IN TRIPOLI IN SEPTEMBER AND WOULD MUCH PREFER TO RETURN TO THE LEDRA PALACE. THIS GAVE GROUNDS FOR CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM. THE AIM WAS TO HOLD A BRIEF FORMAL MEETING OF THE INTERLOCUTORS BEFORE THE END OF THIS WEEK. THE TALKS WOULD THEN BE ADJOURNED UNTIL EARLY SEPTEMBER WHEN THEY WOULD TURN TO MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE. (KYPRIANOU WILL BE ON HOLIDAY IN GREECE FOR MOST OF AUGUST).

5. GORGE ADDED THAT, AS FAR AS HE KNEW, THERE WAS NO TRUTH IN HIJAZI'S ASSERTION (PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE) THAT WALDHEIM HAD ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING IN TRIPOLI ON 7 SEPTEMBER. WALDHEIM HAD MERELY TOLD TREIKI LAST WEEK THAT, CONTRARY TO TREIKI'S IMPRESSION, THE U.N. BELIEVED THAT BOTH SIDES WERE STILL FAR APART. WALDHEIM SUGGESTED THAT THE LIBYANS SHOULD EXPLORE THE MATTER FURTHER. GORGE WAS SURE THAT IF BOTH SIDES ACCEPTED TO RETURN TO THE TABLE THEY WOULD PRESS WALDHEIM VERY STRONGLY TO TELL THE LIBYANS THAT A SUMMIT MEETING IN TRIPOLI AT THIS STAGE WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO UKDEL NATO.

O'KEEFFE

[THIS TELEGRAM WAS NOT ADVANCED]
[REPETITION TO TRIPOLI REFERRED FOR DEPARTMENTAL DECISION,
REPEATED AND REQUESTED TO OTHER POSTS]

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