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TELEGRAM NUMBER 196 OF 13 AUGUST 1981

AND TO UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, INFO ROUTINE ATHENS, ANKARA, ROME, BONN, PARIS

INFO SAVING TO MODUK (DS11) AND CBFC (ACTIONED BY NICOSIA)

MY TELNO 195: INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS

1. THE HEAD OF CHANCERY SAW FANTIS, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY (AKEL) THIS MORNING. FANTIS CONFIRMED THAT THE AKEL LEADERSHIP HAD BEEN STUDYING THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS IN ADVANCE OF TOMORROW'S MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, WHICH WOULD BE ATTENDED BY PAPAIOANNOU.

2. FANTIS SAID THAT THE PROPOSALS REPRESENTED PROGRESS IN COMPARISON WITH THE LINE TAKEN BY THE TURKISH SIDE HITHERTO. THERE WERE NEVERTHELESS A NUMBER OF NEGATIVE ASPECTS:

(A) PRIORITY WAS NO LONGER TO BE GIVEN TO VAROSHA AS AGREED BY KYPRIANOU AND DENKTASH IN 1979. WHILST THIS WOULD NOT MATTER IF THERE WERE A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION, THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD LOSE OUT IF THEY GAVE UP THIS POINT NOW AND THE TALKS THEN RAN INTO THE GROUND.

(B) THE TERRITORIAL OFFER WAS INSUFFICIENT AND AMOUNTED TO LITTLE MORE THAN A STRAIGHTENING OF THE LINE (BUT FROM OTHER COMMENTS MADE BY FANTIS IT SEEMS THAT AKEL MAY NOT HAVE BEEN GIVEN A COPY OF THE MAP). FANTIS THOUGHT THAT SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS COULD BEGIN IF THE TURKS OFFERED A 70:30 SPLIT. THE AIM OF SUCH NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A FIGURE SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 25 AND 28 PERCENT.

(C) AKEL DISLIKED THE FACT THAT THE TERRITORIAL PROPOSALS WERE BEING MADE DEPENDENT ON AGREEMENT ON THE CONSTITUTION AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.

3. FANTIS SAID THAT AKEL WAS NEVERTHELESS OPPOSED TO REJECTION OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS. THEY BELIEVED THAT THE GREEK SIDE SHOULD MAKE THE ABOVE POINTS BUT THEN STATE THEIR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSALS. IF THE TURKISH SIDE SHOWED THEMSELVES WELL DISPOSED THE GREEK SIDE MIGHT THEN COME FORWARD WITH COUNTER PROPOSALS ON THE CONSTITUTION. AKEL DID NOT THINK THERE SHOULD BE ANY RECOURSE TO THE U.N. UNLESS THERE WAS NO PROGRESS.

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/ 4. MARTIN ASKED

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4. MARTIN ASKED FANTIS WHETHER HE FORESAW GOBBI PLAYING A MORE ACTIVE ROLE. FANTIS ACCEPTED THAT GOBBI HAD MADE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION BUT DID NOT THINK THAT HE COULD GO BEYOND HIS PRESENT GOOD OFFICES ROLE WITHOUT A NEW MANDATE FROM THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

COMMENT:

5. JUDGING FROM THIS CONVERSATION AKEL ARE LIKELY TO TAKE A FAIRLY CONSTRUCTIVE LINE AT THE NATIONAL COUNCIL. BUT FANTIS WAS CLEARLY SUSPICIOUS OF THE WESTERN ROLE SUGGESTING THAT WE HAD IN SOME WAY BEEN INVOLVED IN THE FORMULATION OF THE TURKISH SIDE'S PROPOSALS. THIS SUSPICION MAY BE BEHIND AKEL'S APPARENT HESITATION OVER GOBBI PLAYING A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE TALKS AND COULD PARTLY EXPLAIN KYPRIANOU'S OWN NEGATIVE ATTITUDE ON THIS POINT.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING MODUK (DS11)

RHODES

[THIS TELEGRAM WAS NOT ADVANCED]
[PASSED TO MODUK TELEGRAPHICALLY]

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