



Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1

3 December 1981

h.g.
Paul

Dear Hugh,

I have seen a copy of the Prime Minister's letter to you of 1 December about the Greek Cypriot dinner which you are attending in London on 5 December.

The Government's policy on Cyprus is of course clearly stated in the Prime Minister's letter to you of 24 November. For what it is worth however you may like to be reminded of what I said in the House on 18 November, when the subject arose most recently. I enclose a copy of the relevant Hansard extract.

Yours etc

Sheffield

Hugh Rossi Esq MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

BC: Mike Paterson Esq,
10 Downing Street.

4 DEC 1981

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JW

1 December 1981

I enclose a copy of an exchange of letters between the Prime Minister and Mr. Rossi, together with the earlier exchange to which these latter letters refer. (The original draft came to us from the Lord Privy Seal's Office.)

You will see that Mr. Rossi's constituency dinner takes place this weekend. If there is any further material on the question that usefully could be supplied to Mr. Rossi I should be grateful if you could ensure that this is done.

M. A. PATTISON

F.N. Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

KL



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

1 December 1981

Dear Hugh,

Thank you for your letter of 27 November, following our earlier exchange of letters about Cyprus.

I am of course entirely content that, at your dinner on 5 December, you should make the position clear on the basis of my letter of 24 November. I am also sending a copy of this letter to Peter Carrington, in case he can provide you with any more information which might help you for your dinner.

Yours

Rogers

Hugh Rossi, Esq., M.P.

UB
c.fco

SR

From : Hugh Rossi, MP.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

27 November 1981

Dear Margaret,

I am most grateful to you for your personal letter of the 24 November concerning your discussions with the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Melbourne regarding Cyprus. It had not been my intention to trouble you personally with this.

I did not realise that there was no text of a speech available, not having seen the reports myself but only having received them third or fourth hand from constituents who had picked them up from reports circulating in Cyprus.

I shall be attending a Greek Cypriot dinner in London on the 5 December at which Glafos Clerides will be present from Cyprus and I shall seek to make the position clear to him on the basis of your letter; that is if you have no objection to my doing this. Although I shall be attending purely as constituency M.P. and do not intend to speak, inevitably I feel that I will be called upon "to say a few words", and this will give me an opportunity of putting the matter on record if you and Peter Carrington have no objection.

Yours ever,
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hugh Rossi', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

The Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London, SW1.

CLK PP.
R228/11

Man the report
attached is 'SECRET'
for CF to
keep?
Key
25/11



cc 710
19
Cyprus

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November 1981

Dear Hugh:

Thank you for your letter of 4 November about Cyprus. At the time of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Melbourne, it was reported in the Cypriot Press that I had referred to the Cyprus problem as a dispute over territory. It was doubtless these reports which caused concern to your Cypriot constituents.

The discussion at the Commonwealth Meeting of 'the World Political Scene' was one of the confidential exchanges between Heads of Government. No verbatim records are kept, so I am unable to send you a text.

I can however assure you that there has been no change in the Government's policy on Cyprus. We are giving the fullest support to efforts to help achieve a just and lasting settlement within a single, independent state. The guidelines agreed by President Makarios and Mr. Denktash in 1977 recognised that this would be on a federal basis. 'Territory', which is doubtless to include negotiation to demarcate the areas under the administration of each community within the federal structure, is one of the four agenda items under discussion in the inter-communal talks which are being held under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Other aspects, and

/ notably

55

notably constitutional arrangements, are at least as important; and it was certainly not my intention to suggest otherwise when advocating to Commonwealth leaders that all should offer support to the efforts of those involved in the intercommunal talks.

Y
Lansdown

Rogers

Hugh Rossi, Esq., M.P.



10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

Hugh Rossi wrote to seek (for his Cypriot constituents) clarification of remarks attributed to you in Melbourne.

The draft below notes that there is no verbatim record. Beneath the draft, I have attached a copy of the Commonwealth Secretariat's Summary Record. If you wished, you could send this to Mr. Rossi, on a strictly personal basis, but I doubt whether it would be of much assistance. It is perhaps safer to leave it out.

J.D.
MAP

23 November, 1981.

(has added)

it, it could be said that there had been a tendency to increasing disorder and that the prospects of the future were far from cheerful. The first step for the cure for disorder was to try to diagnose its causes. She would divide her diagnosis into two sections. She would try to look at the present conflicts and see how many of them had a deep-rooted, traditional, historic basis, what new factors had arisen, how those interacted with the historic basis, and to see where there was a good deal to be cheerful about and how it was possible to go forward.

SAD

She would quickly go through what she believed was one of the main historic causes of disorder in the world. Many of the present conflicts had one thing in common: they were about disputed territory. She would not go into the problem of Southern Africa because there would be separate debates upon it. Namibia, of course, was in part about disputed territory. It would be said that the whole of the South African problem was about who should govern the area, but she would not go into that at present except to point out that it had a "disputed territory" element to it, although there were other very considerable elements.

NEAD

One of the biggest disputes in the world, in what she called the wider Middle East definition, was the Arab-Israel conflict. Again, it was a conflict about disputed territory, a conflict deeply embedded in history. Of course, views on who had the right to the territory depended on the chosen starting point in history but at the moment the conflict was about disputed territory and whether Israel had a right to exist. It was generally agreed that it had the right to exist behind secure borders. Nevertheless, Israel did not seem to recognise the right of the Palestinians to exist equally with a national identity of their own behind secure borders. It was one of the most obvious conflicts of disputed territory which, in spite of United Nations resolutions, it had not been possible to resolve. It was constantly being said to both sides that they could not demand for themselves an independent security behind secure borders unless they equally recognized the right of someone else to live in that way. Essentially, it was a conflict about disputed territory.

SED

SAD

The present conflict in Cyprus was about disputed territory. She would leave that subject to the President to raise and discuss, but she hoped they could all agree to offer those involved in the inter-communal talks under the auspices of the United Nations support for their efforts. It was another deep, historic conflict about disputed territory. In the conflicts in Central and South America, border disputes proliferate. Other people would be familiar with those. Again, many of them had their origin deep in history. Some of the disputes could, perhaps, even go to the International Court of Justice at The Hague. Some might be decided by that Court



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

20 November 1981

Dear Mike,

to Rodney Lyle

Thank you for your letter of 6 November. I enclose a self-explanatory draft reply from the Prime Minister to Mr Rossi. In his letter Mr Rossi asks for a full text of the Prime Minister's speech. So far as we know, no such thing exists. I enclose a copy of the confidential summary record prepared by the Commonwealth Secretariat and circulated to member governments. It would clearly not be appropriate, or indeed helpful, to pass this to Mr Rossi. It is classified 'Secret' by the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Yours ever

S J Gomersall

S J Gomersall
PS/Lord Privy Seal

M A Pattison Esq
No 10 Downing Street

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

TO:

Hugh Rossi MP
House of Commons
LONDON SW 1

Your Reference

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

SUBJECT:

Thank you for your letter of 4 November about Cyprus. At the time of the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Melbourne, it was reported in the Cypriot press that I had referred to the Cyprus problem as a dispute over territory. It was doubtless these reports which caused concern to your Cypriot constituents.

The discussion at the Commonwealth Meeting of 'the World Political Scene' was one of the confidential exchanges between Heads of Government. No verbatim records are kept, ^{so} and I am unable to send you a text.

I can however assure you that there has been no change in the Government's policy on Cyprus. We are giving the fullest support to efforts to help achieve a just and lasting settlement within a single, independent state. The guidelines agreed by President Makarios and Mr Denktash in 1977 recognised that this would be on a federal basis. 'Territory', which is doubtless to include negotiation to demarcate the areas under the administration of each community within the federal structure, is one of the four agenda items under discussion in the inter-communal talks which are being held under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Other aspects, and notably constitutional arrangements, are at least as important; and it was certainly not my intention to suggest otherwise when advocating to Commonwealth leaders that all should offer support to the efforts of those involved in the intercommunal talks.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

20/11

Hugh Rossi MP

6 November, 1981

I enclose a copy of a letter the Prime Minister has received from Mr Hugh Rossi, MP, who expresses his Cypriot constituents concern about remarks made by the Prime Minister during CHGM.

Could you please let me have a suitable draft reply for the Prime Minister to send to Mr Rossi. It would be helpful to have something from you by Friday, 20 November.

M. A. PATTISON

Roderic Lyne, Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

JL

6 November, 1981

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to acknowledge your letter of 4 November. I will place your letter before the Prime Minister and you will be sent a reply as soon as possible.

M. A. PATTISON

Hugh Rossi, Esq, MP

From : Hugh Rossi, MP.

cc: 15/6/11



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

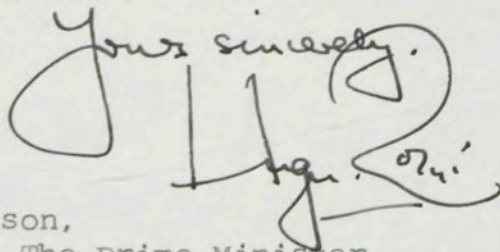
4 November 1981

Dear Mr Patterson,

A number of my Cypriot constituents have expressed concern at some statement allegedly made by the prime Minister about Cyprus, apparently using the phrase "disputed territories".

The whole of the Cyprus question is an extremely sensitive one for me in my constituency and I have always taken the line that it was our policy to respect the Treaty of Guarantee and work for a united and independent and sovereign state under the terms of that Guarantee, which is in fact what I have always understood to be our position.

If there has been any change I would be grateful if you could advise me of this; and in particular send me a copy of the full text of the prime Minister's speech to which reference has been made.

Yours sincerely,


Mr. Michael Patterson,
Private Office of The Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
SW1.