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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

17 January, 1983

CYPRUS

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from Mr. Rauf Dentas. I should be grateful for advice on whether the Prime Minister should reply and, if so, for a draft.

A. L. COLES

R. Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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12 January 1983

SK/ I attach a letter the Prime Minister has received from Mr. Denktás, the "President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus", about the situation in Cyprus. I should be grateful for advice on whether the Prime Minister should reply to the letter and, if so, on the form and content of such a reply.

Timothy Flesher

Roger Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



TURKISH FEDERATED STATE OF KIBRIS
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
(Lefkoşa, Mersin 10-TURKEY)

123/1
30 December 1982

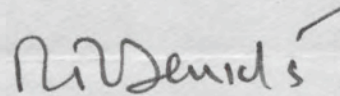
Your Excellency,

I have the honour, on my behalf and on behalf of the Turkish Cypriot Community, to express my gratitude for the impartial stance adopted by the U.K. delegation on the question of missing persons in Cyprus, at the recent deliberations of the Third Committee of the U.N. General Assembly.

This impartiality, which has manifested itself in an affirmative vote for a right of hearing to the Turkish Cypriot Representative at the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, and a vote of abstention on the resolution adopted, which the Turkish Cypriot Community considers unacceptable, has been noted with satisfaction by our Community which aspires to a solution of this humanitarian problem within the existing framework of the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, established by the mutual agreement of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities.

I am confident that the U.K., in its desire to help bring about a final solution to this humanitarian problem, will continue to show the same impartiality and fair-mindedness in the future.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


(Rauf R. Denktaş)
President

Her Excellency Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
London.

Cyprus Relations Feb 80



(LONDON, 15 FEBRUARY 1980)

20 December 1980

Dear Sir,

I have the honour, on your behalf and on behalf of the Turkish Cypriot Community, to express my gratitude for the report of the U.K. delegation on the question of missing persons in Cyprus, at the recent deliberations of the Joint Committee of the U.K. General Assembly.

This report, which has manifested itself in an alternative vote for a right of hearing to the Turkish Cypriot representative at the Committee, a missing persons in Cyprus, and a vote of abstention on the resolution adopted, which the Turkish Cypriot Community considers unacceptable, has been noted with satisfaction by our Community which aspires to a solution to this humanitarian problem within the existing framework of the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus, established by the mutual agreement of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities.

I am confident that the U.K., in its desire to help bring about a final solution to this humanitarian problem, will continue to show the same impartiality and firmness in the future.

Please accept, Sir, my sincere thanks for the assurance of your highest consideration.

(Name of the person)
President

Her Excellency Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
London.



R1211

TURKISH FEDERATED STATE OF KIBRIS
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
(Lefkoşa, Mersin 10, TURKEY)

27 December 1982

Your Excellency,

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to bring to your kind attention the well-orchestrated, and concerted propaganda campaign currently being waged in international fora by the Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. Andreas Papandreou, against the intercommunal talks in Nicosia, and sincerely to state our considered view that such unwarranted and unfair attacks on the validity, and usefulness of the talks between the two Cypriot sides may, if it were to continue unopposed, and unchecked for a longer time, gain enough momentum finally to lead to their premature death; a development, I am sure Your Excellency will agree with me, of the first magnitude.

This by and large, is the scenario written by Mr. Papandreou according to which, the Greek Cypriot Administration of Mr. Kyprianou, is being forced to act. This is not to argue, however, that there has been a change or a reversal in the attitude of Mr. Papandreou towards the intercommunal talks between the two communities. On the contrary, he has never been too careful to conceal his dislike for result-oriented talks, and his preference for clamorous, abusive propaganda at international fora. What has, infact, taken place, is a change of emphasis in his behaviour and attitude. Until recently, Mr. Papandreou may have been a non-believer in the usefulness of the dialogue in Nicosia. We are now, however, confronted with a radically different attitude of Mr. Papandreou towards the intercommunal talks.

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Her Excellency The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
London.

His speech and behaviour at the EEC Summit in Copenhagen, seems to us to provide ample proof to convince any sceptic that Mr. Papandreou has finally made up his mind to deal the fatal last blow to the on-going dialogue between the two communities, come what may. I am afraid this new attitude of his, is infinitely more destructive than his previous scepticism regarding the talks. He has now singled out the intercommunal negotiations as his main target to be torpedoed once and for all and, in order to achieve his aim, it has become obvious that he is prepared to pressurise and threaten even the Greek Cypriot leadership to fall in line with his whims, and ride roughshod over their feelings and desires.

The unpleasant truth has, at last, emerged as clear as the daylight; that Mr. Papandreou does not want the Cyprus conflict to be solved between the two communities, through the medium of the intercommunal negotiations, which have now been going on for a good while and, in the words of the Secretary-General of the U.N., His Excellency, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, have led to "significant narrowing of differences" in many hitherto contentious areas. (Secretary-General's report to the Security Council, S/15149, dated 1 June 1982, paras 55, 56.)

Notwithstanding the existence of overwhelming evidence to the contrary, and in the face of wide-spread acknowledgement of, and support, for the intercommunal talks as not only the best, but as the only means for reaching a speedy and mutually acceptable solution on the Cyprus conflict, Mr. Papandreou still insists on the odd view that the talks are useless, and should be discontinued, calling at the same time, for further internationalisation of the issue.

I am sure, Your Excellency will agree with me that, when contrasted with the views of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and with the assessment of most of the world leaders, Mr. Papandreou's assessment and claims about the intercommunal talks are undoubtedly devoid of any credibility and should not therefore be heeded.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Perez de Cuellar, under whose auspices the intercommunal talks are held, had this assessment to make about the talks, in his latest report to the Security Council, S/15502, dated 1 December, 1982:

"The intercommunal talks in my opinion, still represent the best available means of pursuing a concrete and effective negotiating process with the object of achieving an agreed, just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus question."

In paragraph 59 of the same report, the Secretary-General talks about a "window of opportunity", pointing out the fact that important progress has been achieved at the talks and that, a comprehensive settlement may be built on this progress:

"It is the responsibility of all concerned not to let that window be closed. It is my earnest hope that all the leaders involved will exercise the statesmanship and courage required in this regard. I shall do my utmost to assist them in this endeavour."

The President of the United States, His Excellency Mr. Ronald Reagan, in a report submitted to Congress on 30 November, 1982, agrees fully with the views and assessment of the Secretary-General, and with that of the Turkish Cypriot Community as to the indispensability of a serious, constructive dialogue between the two sides. President Reagan, inter alia said:

"The two parties remain committed to these U.N. sponsored talks and to working for progress in this forum. We continue to believe that it represents the most fruitful course for negotiating progress. The parties are engaged in a genuine dialogue which has made it possible for each side to define its positions."

Even the Government of the Soviet Union, whose country might be thought to be standing to gain from a prolonged conflict in Cyprus and who are in favour of an international conference on Cyprus, have advised Mr. Kyprianou, during his last visit to that country, to engage in serious, constructive talks, and not to think of abandoning them.

Irrespective of the overwhelming weight of opinion in favour of the intercommunal talks, Mr. Papandreou, clinging obstinately on to his blatant chauvinism, continues his frontal attacks on the intercommunal dialogue, trying all the time to undermine the talks by urging and pressurising the Greek Cypriot leadership to disavow and reject all the bilateral agreements concluded with the Turkish Cypriot Community; agreements, on the basis of which the negotiations have so far progressed.

It has now become a public knowledge that, because of unrelenting pressure exerted by the Prime Minister of Greece to make a somewhat reluctant Greek Cypriot leadership to toe the line, relations between Athens and the Greek Cypriot side have considerably worsened.

The decision by the two-party alliance in South Cyprus to continue seeking a satisfactory solution to the conflict through the intercommunal talks, has angered Mr. Papandreou to such an extent that he saw it fit to take the unprecedented step of admonishing the alliance in public.

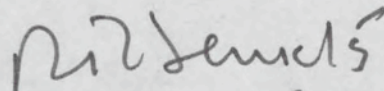
I would like, here, to stress to Your Excellency that the decision to take the Cyprus issue once again to the United Nations' General Assembly after the leadership elections in the South has been reached in Athens, and subsequently imposed upon the Greek Cypriot leadership. Furthermore, the decision which saw the missing persons issue - exclusively a subject matter for the autonomous Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus - debated umpteenth time at the Third Committee of the United Nations, was also the result of pressure from Athens.

As Your Excellency is no doubt aware, such moves as instigated by the Prime Minister of Greece in international fora, are diametrically opposed to the understanding, and to the agreements between the two sides, and are also incompatible with the serious negotiating process. The Turkish Cypriot Community, whose only aim is to find a speedy, negotiated solution to the Cyprus conflict, through serious, result-oriented dialogue with the Greek Cypriot Community, is increasingly being confronted with hurdles artificially and purposefully created by Mr. Papandreou. While the Prime Minister of Greece is, on the one hand making false propaganda to the effect that "the negotiations are in effect being conducted between Turkey and the Greek Cypriots", he himself, by his continued interference and by the imposition of his views on the Greek Cypriot Community, has practically replaced the latter, as one of the protagonists in the talks. Faced with the prospect of continued interference by Mr. Papandreou in the normal process of negotiations, the Turkish Cypriot Community can not, but be pessimistic about the chances of success at the talks.

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In view of the above, I am sure that Your Excellency will be sympathetic to the views of the Turkish Cypriot Community, and will not be grudging in your response to our appeal for Your Excellency's good offices and influence in order to help convince Mr. Papandreou that the Cyprus conflict can not be solved by sheer propaganda and distortions in the international arena and, that he should come to terms with the fact that Turkish and Greek Cypriots are the two principal sides to the conflict, and should be left alone to carry on with constructive negotiations unhindered, so that, a mutually agreed, just, and lasting solution is found to the conflict.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



(Rauf R. DENKTAS)

President of the
Turkish Federated State of Kibris.