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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 May 1983

Cyprus

Thank you for your letter of 4 May. The Prime Minister agrees that a reply should be sent from her to President Kyprianou in terms of the draft telegram enclosed with your letter subject to replacing the words "Governments in Nicosia" in the second sentence by the word "countries".

A. J. COLES

R.B. Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

RM



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

Agree attached reply to
President of Cyprus?

4 May 1983

A.F.C. 5/5.

Dear John,

Drew
notCyprus

dated 19/4/83.

I enclose a copy of an unsigned letter to the Prime Minister from President Kyprianou of Cyprus about Turkish allegations of an Armenian terrorist presence in the Republic of Cyprus. It was delivered to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office by the Cyprus High Commission. I also enclose a draft reply from the Prime Minister in the form of a telegram to Nicosia. We understand from Nicosia that a similar letter has been sent to all permanent members of the Security Council and members of the Council of Europe.

We have no evidence from any source that Armenian terrorists have established bases in southern Cyprus. But Turkish fears that this is the case, and reactions to those publicly expressed fears by the Cyprus or Greek Governments, could nevertheless themselves create an atmosphere of crisis on the island. Accordingly, we have tried (together with the Americans and the United Nations) to reduce tension by reassuring the Turks to the best of our ability and knowledge and by calming down the Governments of both Cyprus and Greece. The draft letter from the Prime Minister, which is largely self-explanatory, is in line with that policy.

Yours very truly,
R B Bone

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

Classification and Caveats
CONFIDENTIAL

Precedence/Deskby
PRIORITY

ZCZC	1	ZCZC
GRS	2	GRS
CLASS	3	CONFIDENTIAL
CAVEATS	4	
DESKBY	5	
FM FCO	6	FM FCO
PRE/ADD	7	TO PRIORITY NICOSIA
TEL NO	8	TELEGRAM NUMBER
	9	INFO ROUTINE ATHENS, ANKARA
	10	SAVING TO WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, BONN, PARIS, ROME.
	11	YOUR TELNO 75: CYPRUS: ARMENIAN TERRORISM
	12	1. Please pass the following reply from the Prime Minister to
	13	Kyprianou's letter of 19 April.
	14	Quote
	15	Thank you for your letter of 19 April about allegations that the
	16	Republic of Cyprus is being used as a base for Armenian terrorists
	17	This matter has been the subject of diplomatic exchanges between
	18	our two ^{countries.} Governments in Nicosia. We share your concern that it
	19	should not lead to an increase in tension in Cyprus. Accordingly,
	20	following a meeting between your Foreign Minister Mr Rolandis
	21	and our High Commissioner in Nicosia on 26 March, we told the Turk
///	22	ish Government at a high level that we ourselves had no evidence
//	23	of Armenian terrorist bases in southern Cyprus. We also told
/	24	them of the assurances of your Government that you have no
	25	intention of allowing Cyprus to be used for Armenian terrorist

NNNN ends telegram		BLANK		Catchword /activities	
File number		Dept SED		Distribution Limited SED	
Drafted by (Block capitals)				MAED	
Telephone number				PUSD	
Authorised for despatch				Security Dept	
Comcen reference		Time of despatch		Defence Dept	
				UND	
				News D	
				PS	
				PS/Mr Hurd	
				PS/Lord Belstead	
				PS/Mr Rifkind	
				PS/PUS	
				Mr Wright	
				Mr Goodison	
				Additional:	
				International	
				Terrorism and	
				Hijacking	

TELEGRAM (CONT)

Classification and Caveats

Page

CONFIDENTIAL

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1 <<<<

2 activities. I understand that, in addition, the United Nations,
3 having made their own investigations in southern Cyprus, ~~and have~~
4 told the Turkish Government that these have revealed no Armenian
5 terrorist presence.

6 I share your concern that nothing should be done to endanger
7 peace and security in the Eastern Mediterranean. In particular,
8 I hope nothing will damage the prospects for a solution to the
9 Cyprus problem through the Intercommunal talks. I look forward
10 to our meeting in London on 17 May when we can discuss all
11 these matters further.

12 Unquote

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14 PYM

15 NNNN

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Agreed

NNNN ends
telegram

BLANK

Catchword

5 MAY 1983

