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TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 989 OF 3 OCTOBER

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Prime Minister

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CYPRUS: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU,  
MR TURKMEN AND MR DENKTASH

SUMMARY

1. SECRETARY-GENERAL SAW KYPRIANOU AND TURKMEN ON 30 SEPTEMBER AND DENKTASH ON 1 OCTOBER. ACCORDING TO THE SECRETARIAT KYPRIANOU'S RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S IDEAS WAS REASONABLY CONSTRUCTIVE

BUT BOTH TURKMEN AND DENKTASH REJECTED THEM COMPLETELY. ALL THEY WOULD AGREE TO WAS THE RESUMPTION OF THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS ON THEIR EXISTING BASIS. DENKTASH ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ARRANGE A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITH HIM AND KYPRIANOU. GOBBI AND THE SECRETARIAT ARE NOW CONSIDERING HOW TO PICK UP THE PIECES. THEY FEAR THAT DENKTASH SEES A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING AS A MAKE OR BREAK EXERCISE WHOSE FAILURE WOULD PROVIDE AN EXCUSE TO DECLARE UDI. GOBBI'S INSTINCT IS TO CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR A RESUMPTION OF THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS, BUT TO ARRANGE THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ONLY IF IT CAN BE PROPERLY PREPARED SO AS TO ENSURE THAT IT DOES NOT FAIL.

DETAIL

2. SHERRY AND GOBBI BRIEFED US (AND THE AMERICANS) TODAY (3 OCTOBER) ON THESE THREE MEETINGS. THEY SAID GLOOMILY THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN AN ENCOURAGING WEEKEND.

3. SHERRY SAID THAT KYPRIANOU HAD BROUGHT WITH HIM A WRITTEN REPLY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S IDEAS. SHERRY DID NOT REVEAL ITS CONTENTS BUT SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN FAIRLY CONSTRUCTIVE. KYPRIANOU HAD GIVEN AN UNQUALIFIED YES TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PROPOSED METHOD OF PROCEEDING. HE HAD BEEN FAIRLY CONSTRUCTIVE ABOUT THE THREE INDICATORS AND HAD MADE LENGTHY SUGGESTIONS ON THE CONTENT OF ANY FUTURE INDICATORS. AFTER THE MEETING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SPOKESMAN HAD ISSUED A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONSIDERED KYPRIANOU'S RESPONSE 'A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE STEP'.

4. TURKMEN, HOWEVER, FORESHADOWING DENKTASH'S CALL THE NEXT DAY, HAD RESPONDED NEGATIVELY TO THE IDEAS. HE REJECTED THE INDICATORS ALREADY PUT FORWARD AND SAID THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO FUTURE INDICATORS EITHER. IT WAS ALL, HE SAID, A PLOT TO GET RID OF THE EVALUATION DOCUMENT FROM THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS. TURKEY WANTED TO GET BACK TO THE EVALUATION DOCUMENT. (SHERRY BLAMED TURKMEN'S RESPONSE ON THE BRIEFING PAPER WHICH HE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY HIS OFFICIALS).

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5. DENKTASH, ON 1 OCTOBER, HAD BEEN EQUALLY NEGATIVE. HE WOULD NOT AGREE TO HAVING INDICATORS AS A METHOD OF PROCEEDINGS NOR DID HE ACCEPT THE SPECIFIC INDICATORS PUT FORWARD. ALL HE WAS PREPARED TO CONSIDER WAS A RESUMPTION OF THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS ON THEIR EXISTING BASIS IN WHICH THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO DISCUSS THE EVALUATION DOCUMENT. HE ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONVENE A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITH HIMSELF AND KYPRIANOU. HE EMPHASISED THAT THE GREEK-CYPRIOIS WOULD HAVE TO ACCEPT DEALING WITH THE TURKISH-CYPRIOIS ON A BASIS OF PARTNERSHIP AND EQUALITY. AFTER THE MEETING, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SPOKESMAN HAD PERJURED HIMSELF BY SAYING THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONSIDERED THIS MEETING TOO TO HAVE BEEN 'POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE'.
6. SHERRY SAID THAT HE PERCEIVED NO DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TURKISH AND TURKISH-CYPRIOIS REACTIONS. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD BECOME VERY ANGRY AND ASKED DENKTASH HOW HE COULD BE EXPECTED TO CO-OPERATE IF HE RECEIVED NO CO-OPERATION. TURKMEN HAD EMPHASISED THAT THE TURKISH SIDE HAD DISLIKED BEING TAKEN BY SURPRISE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S IDEAS, AND THAT THE PUBLICITY WHICH THESE IDEAS HAD RECEIVED HAD KILLED THE EXERCISE. THE ONLY POSITIVE ELEMENT HAD BEEN THE WILLINGNESS TO RESUME THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS ON THEIR EXISTING BASIS, WHICH SHERRY BELIEVED WAS AN UNDERTAKING WHICH TURKMEN HAD GOT OUT OF DENKTASH IN RETURN FOR AGREEING TO SUPPORT HIM IN REJECTING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S IDEAS.
7. GOBBI AND SHERRY HAD HAD A DEPRESSING LUNCH WITH ATAKOL TODAY (3 OCTOBER). THE LATTER HAD AGAIN EMPHASISED THE NEED FOR GREEK-CYPRIOIS ACCEPTANCE OF EQUALITY AND PARTNERSHIP. HE HAD ALSO ENLARGED ON DENKTASH'S PROPOSAL FOR A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING. ATAKOL WANTED THIS MEETING TO TAKE PLACE AT THE END OF OCTOBER OR IN THE FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER BEFORE A RESUMPTION OF THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS AND BEFORE THE TURKISH ELECTIONS. GOBBI'S IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE TURKISH-CYPRIOIS WERE THINKING OF THE MEETING AS A MAKE-OR-BREAK OCCASION AT WHICH PERHAPS DENKTASH WOULD DELIVER AN ULTIMATUM. IF KYPRIANOU DID NOT RESPOND SATISFACTORILY, THEN DENKTASH WOULD PROCEED TO UDI.
8. GOBBI, APPARENTLY THINKING ALOUD, SAID THAT DESPITE THE SETBACK THE UN WOULD JUST HAVE TO PUSH AHEAD. AT LEAST BOTH SIDES ACCEPTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT EVEN IF THE TURKISH SIDE HAD TURNED DOWN HIS RECENT IDEAS. THE UN SHOULD TRY TO ARRANGE A RESUMPTION OF THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SHOULD EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING BUT ONLY IF THE GROUND HAD BEEN PROPERLY PREPARED IN ADVANCE AND HE COULD BE SURE THAT IT WOULD SUCCEED AND NOT LEAD TO A BREAKDOWN OF THE WHOLE PROCESS. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL COULD NOT GIVE UP, HE WOULD JUST 'HAVE TO PUT HIS PRIDE IN HIS POCKET'. HE COULD STILL TRY OUT VARIOUS IDEAS, PERHAPS EVEN THE MINI-PACKAGE, BUT WOULD HAVE TO DO SO IN A WAY WHICH AVOIDED SPRINGING SURPRISES ON EITHER SIDE. GOBBI MEANWHILE WAS GOING TO ARGENTINA WHERE HE WILL BE UNTIL AT LEAST 21 OCTOBER.
9. THE US MISSION HAVE TOLD US THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS SUMMONING THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR THIS AFTERNOON TO EXPRESS CONCERN AT THE TURKISH SIDE'S RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S IDEAS.

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10. KYPRIANOU HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE TODAY (3 OCTOBER) WHICH HE SAID CYPRUS WAS READY TO CO-OPERATE FULLY AND IN GOOD FAITH WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. ASKED ABOUT DENKTASH'S PROPOSAL FOR A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING, HE RECALLED THE PREVIOUS HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS OF 1977 AND 1979 AND SAID THAT HE WAS UNCERTAIN OF DENKTASH'S REASONS FOR SEEKING ANOTHER ONE. IT WOULD NOT BE WISE TO HAVE A MEETING MERELY FOR THE SAKE OF MEETING OR TO HAVE ONE WHICH WOULD FAIL. HIS RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSAL WOULD BE DETERMINED AFTER CONSULTING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

11. DENKTASH ALSO HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH HE APPARENTLY SAID THAT HE HAD ASKED FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING BECAUSE HE NEEDED TO SEE KYPRIANOU. HE DID NOT MENTION HIS RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S IDEAS.

12. MIFT REPORTS KYPRIANOU'S SPEECH TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS MORNING.

FCO PSE PASS SAVING TO MOSCOW

THOMSON

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