

SCREWSWELL GARDENS
LONDON S.W. 5
TELEPHONE: 01-373 6345
TELEX: 917506 GLOTEL G

ACHMETAGA ESTATE
PROKOPION, EUBOEA, GREECE
TELEPHONE: 0227 41204
TELEX: 214716 ELBR GR

FROM THE HONOURABLE
Francis Noel-Baker

12 July 1984: London

Personal & Secret/ Cyprus Neutral Group/ CIR 10/ Copy No X

Without seeking to involve you or HMG in our plans for a Cyprus Initiative, I would like you to know that we are making progress.

2. In Vienna last week, Swiss ex-Ambassador Auguste Lindt (Former UN High Commissioner for Refugees) and Austrian ex-Ambassador Dr Ludwig Steiner MP (People's Party International Affairs Spokesman), with Mr Christopher Terry as prospective Administrator in attendance, agreed with me to set up the unofficial Cyprus Neutral Initiative with an inner Fact-Finding Team of us three, backed-up by a Consultative Group of personalities from Canada, Ireland, Pakistan, Sweden and Yugoslavia with the approval, but not participation, of their respective governments.
3. Members of the Group would join the Team as required by circumstances or the parties with whom we were in discussion: i.e. a retired Pakistani General with the Turks (particularly the Turkish Military), a senior Yugoslav with the Cypriot Left (AKEL), etc.
4. We decided, reluctantly, to wait until the UN Secretary General's current efforts end (in failure, as we think), notwithstanding the dangers inherent in further delay.
5. Nevertheless, I will go to Cyprus on 26 July to suggest that the two Communities should invite us to hear their respective cases, as soon as we are ready to start: probably in September.
6. I am rather confident that we will get a result, with patience and persistence. We don't want to take longer than three months.
7. We do, however, still have a problem of finance. A modest sum to cover the expenses of the participants is all that is needed: chicken-feed compared to the cost of UNFICYP. All suggestions will be gratefully received.
8. We are inviting the participants to write to me indicating agreement.

Yours ever
Francis

Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP
10 Downing Street