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TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 877 OF 23 SEPTEMBER 1984

INFO IMMEDIATE NICOSIA, ANKARA, PRIORITY ATHENS, WASHINGTON.

MY TELNO 875: CYPRUS: PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU

SUMMARY

1. TURKISH AMBASSADOR HAS GIVEN ME A TENDENTIOUS ACCOUNT OF THE GREEK-CYPRIOTS ALLEGED REACTIONS TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S WORKING POINTS. THE PRIME MINISTER COULD PERHAPS USE THIS TO ADVANTAGE WITH KYPRIANOU.

DETAIL

2. THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR HAS SENT ME A CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT COMPARING THE TURKISH AND GREEK CYPRIOT REACTIONS TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S WORKING POINTS. THE DOCUMENT PORTRAYS THE GREEK-CYPRIOT REACTIONS IN A POOR LIGHT AND I BELIEVE AT POINTS MISREPRESENTS THEM.

3. THIS IS A FURTHER EXAMPLE OF THE GULF OF MISTRUST BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. (THE AMBASSADOR ALSO SENT ME A COPY OF A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY KYPRIANOU ON FRIDAY STATING THAT 'THE COURSE OF THE TALKS CANNOT BE CONSIDERED SATISFACTORY' AND BLAMING THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS - TO WHICH DENKTASH HAD ISSUED A PREDICTABLE REJOINDER.)

4. HOWEVER, THE DOCUMENT PERHAPS GIVES US AN OPPORTUNITY WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER COULD PUT TO GOOD USE WITH KYPRIANOU. SHE MIGHT TELL KYPRIANOU OF THESE TURKISH REACTIONS AND SEE IF HE COULD BE BROUGHT TO DENY THAT THE GREEK-CYPRIOT POSITION IS AS THE TURKS DESCRIBE IT AND TO STATE IT IN MORE FORTH-COMING TERMS, WE (OR

TURKS DESCRIBE IT AND TO STATE IT IN MORE FORTH-COMING TERMS, WE OR PERHAPS BETTER, THE SECRETARY GENERAL) COULD THEN GO BACK TO THE TURKS AND PRESENT THIS TO THEM AS A SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN THE GREEK-CYPRIOT POSITION (AND ONE WHICH WARRANTED EQUIVALENT NEW TURKISH CYPRIOT INDICATIONS OF FLEXIBILITY).

5. THE DOCUMENT (COPY BY FACSIMILE TO SED) IS LENGTHY AND DOES NOT BEAR REPEATING IN DETAIL. IT IS ENOUGH HERE TO TAKE FROM IT THE FOLLOWING FOUR ALLEGED GREEK-CYPRIOT REACTIONS TO ELEMENTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S WORKING POINTS:

(I) WORKING POINT: PROPOSED REOPENING OF NICOSIA AIRPORT

ALLEGED GREEK-CYPRIOT REACTION: THE GREEK-CYPRIOT POSITION BY BRINGING IN THE ISSUE OF SOVEREIGNTY "AMOUNTS TO AN IMPLIED REJECTION"

(II) WORKING POINT: POWERS AND FUNCTIONS TO BE VESTED IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC

ALLEGED GREEK-CYPRIOT REACTION: "THE GREEK-CYPRIOT SIDE SEEMS TO REJECT THE SUGGESTION BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THAT A LIST BE DRAWN UP TO SPECIFY THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ... THEY ARE TALKING BOUT DEVOLVING SOME POWERS FROM THE CENTRE RATHER THAN ESTABLISHING A BIZONAL FEDERATION"

(III) WORKING POINT: LEGISLATURE

ALLEGED GREEK-CYPRIOT REACTION: "THE GREEK-CYPRIOT SIDE REJECTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SUGGESTION THAT A BI-CAMERAL LEGISLATURE BE ENVISAGED"

(IV) WORKING POINT: EXECUTIVE:

ALLEGED GREEK-CYPRIOT REACTION "....THE ROLE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENCY WILL BE DIMINISHED EVEN COMPARED WITH THE 1960 CONSTITUTION" (THE IMPLICATION BEING THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WILL ALWAYS BE OVERBORNE IN THE EXECUTIVE).

6. THE SECRETARIAT ACCOUNTS SUGGEST THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS HAVE BY NO MEANS "REJECTED" THE PROPOSALS MENTIONED IN

(I) (II) AND (III) ABOVE. THERE SEEMS TO BE GIVE IN THEIR POSITION ON EACH OF THESE POINTS. AS FOR (IV) WHICH IS PERHAPS THE HEART OF THE MATTER, I SUSPECT THAT THE TURKS ARE AGAIN OVERSTATING THE CASE AND THAT KYPRIANOU COULD BE BROUGHT TO SAY SO.

7. IF KYPRIANOU PROVIDED US WITH A HELPFUL AND USABLE RESPONSE ON ANY OF THESE POINTS, IT WOULD BE FOR CONSIDERATION WHETHER THE SECRETARY OF STATE MIGHT TRY TO FIND AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY THIS TO THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER THIS WEEK AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. I WOULD LIKE IN ANY CASE TO HAVE AUTHORITY TO PASS ON KYPRIANOU'S REACTION TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL.

THOMSON

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