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CYPRUS

IMMEDIATE

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TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NO 20 OF 22 JANUARY 85.

INFO PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, ATHENS, ANKARA.

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INFO SAVING UKREP BRUSSELS, UKDEL NATO.

MIPT : CYPRUS PROBLEM.

SUMMARY.

GREEK CYPRIOT REACTIONS, REFLECTING RECENT CHANGES IN PUBLIC ATTITUDES, SUGGEST THAT PROGRESS MAY STILL BE POSSIBLE. THE IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARE TO RESTRAIN TURKISH REACTIONS AND RE-ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE UN POLITICAL PRESENCE IN NICOSIA.

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRINCIPALS ON BOTH SIDES AND OF A UN POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE COMMENT FROM HERE IS DIFFICULT IN PARTICULAR IT IS HARD TO JUDGE WHAT REALLY LAY AT THE ROOT OF KYPRIANOU'S REFUSAL TO ACCEPT THE DOCUMENTATION PUT FORWARD BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL. IT MAY BE SIGNIFICANT THAT OF THE FOUR ISSUES THAT KYPRIANOU PROPOSED FOR DISCUSSION AT A FURTHER HIGH LEVEL MEETING, HE SINGLED OUT IN HIS STATEMENT TO THE PRESS TURKISH TROOP WITHDRAWALS AND TERRITORIAL ARRANGEMENTS. WE HAVE CONTINUED TO RECEIVE INDICATIONS HERE OF THE PARTICULAR SENSITIVITY FOR GREEK CYPRIOT OPINION OF GUARANTEES AND THE LINKED QUESTION OF TROOP WITHDRAWALS.

2. FROM PUBLIC COMMENT IT IS EVIDENT THAT KYPRIANOU AND MOST GREEK CYPRIOTS PREFER TO REGARD THE EVENTS IN NEW YORK AS A SETBACK RATHER THAN A FAILURE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S INITIATIVE. THE EMPHASIS ON BOTH LEFT AND RIGHT ON THE VALUE OF CONTINUED EFFORTS TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT IS STRIKING. OF THE NEWSPAPERS ONLY LYSSARIDES' CHOSE TO SEE THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF THE "WRECK" AS CYPRUS ITSELF. ON THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE THE SENSE OF RELIEF, ALMOST SATISFACTION, IS WORRYING. THERE IS A RISK OF DENKTASH ONCE AGAIN ADDUCING PUBLIC OPINION TO SUPPORT DECISIONS TO GO AHEAD WITH FURTHER CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS.

3. THE IMMEDIATE NEEDS SEEM TO ME TO BE :

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-A) TO PERSUADE THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT NOT TO LOSE PATIENCE AND TO CONTINUE TO KEEP DENKTASH ON A TIGHT REIN.

B) FOR A SENIOR UN POLITICAL PRESENCE TO BE RE-ESTABLISHED HERE, PREFERABLY IN THE FORM OF A NEW SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. A UN REPRESENTATIVE IN DIRECT TOUCH WITH THE TWO SIDES AND AWARE OF THE PRIVATE UNDERSTANDING THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD REACHED WITH THEM MIGHT HAVE FOREARMED PEREZ DE CUELLAR AGAINST THE ATTITUDE ADOPTED BY THE TWO SIDES AT THE HIGH LEVEL MEETING. HE COULD NOW HELP PURSUE THE PROSPECTS OF RENEWED CONTACTS (INCLUDING IN NICOSIA, AS DENKTASH HAS APPARENTLY ADVOCATED).

4. THERE IS CLEARLY A DANGER (UKMIS NEW YORK TEL40) THAT THE FRUITS OF PROGRESS IN RECENT MONTHS MAY NOW BE LOST, ESPECIALLY IF DENKTASH EMBARKS ON NEW AND UNHELPFUL MANOEUVRES. BUT THE CONTINUED CONSENSUS AMONG THE MAIN PARTIES ON THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE THAT EFFORTS SHOULD CONTINUE WILL BE AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON KYPRIANOU AND AGAIN, IT SEEMS TO ME, REFLECTS THE CHANGE IN PUBLIC ATTITUDES HERE OVER THE LAST YEAR. PROVIDED BOTH SIDES CAN BE PERSUADED TO ACT (AND SPEAK) WITH RESTRAINT IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, WHILE MORE GROUNDWORK IS UNDERTAKEN (BY THE UN WITH US AND OTHERS IN SUPPORT), I CONSIDER THERE TO BE A REASONABLE PROSPECT OF GETTING THINGS BACK ON THE RAILS.

5. FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES.

WILBERFORCE

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