



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

15 May 1985

Dear Charles,

Cyprus

The Foreign Secretary recently spoke to the Prime Minister about Cyprus. You may find the following round-up helpful.

As explained in the Foreign Secretary's note of 24 April to the Prime Minister (copy attached), UN Secretariat attention has now turned again to Denktash, in the wake of Kyprianou's acceptance of the Secretary-General's revised "documentation" on 6 April.

This "documentation" is, of course, the basis on which Sr Perez de Cuellar hopes to restart the process stalled at the January New York meeting. The UN appear to accept that Denktash is unlikely to accept the documentation unconditionally before the completion of his elections ("Presidential" on 9 June, "Parliamentary" on 23 June). But the Secretary-General has told him that he wants to be able to record at least some progress in his six-monthly report to the Security Council prior to the UNFICYP mandate renewal on 15 June.

Denktash, if not explicitly cooperating with this approach, at least seems not actually to be seeking to sabotage it. Instead of carrying out his threat not to engage in any negotiations until after 23 June, he has written to the Secretary-General seeking "clarification" of some points in the new documentation. There must be an element of gamesmanship in this but there is also reason to believe that Denktash is genuinely uncertain as to whether he and Kyprianou are being invited to address the same documents.

While the new documents (none of which we have officially seen) appear to be substantially similar to those submitted to the January high-level meeting, we believe there is enough that is different in them to provide useful ammunition for Denktash, should he wish to make difficulties. In particular the status and content of a draft statement (an entirely new

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document) which the Secretary-General would make on the announcement of an agreement is still not clear to us nor, apparently, to the Greek or Turkish Cypriots.

Meanwhile Denktash has pressed forward with his constitution-building. The referendum on his new draft constitution was held on 5 May. The 70 per cent turn-out and 70 per cent approval of the draft was something of a disappointment to him, a fact being pressed hard by the Greek Cypriots. But their overall reaction to the Referendum has been restrained. Hints of recourse to the Security Council have been made only to be dismissed. They welcomed our comments on the referendum while complaining that the US reaction should have been "clearer". Our line was essentially that as we did not recognise the TRNC we would not recognise any new constitution, and we repeated our support for the UN Secretary-General.

Since the Foreign Secretary minuted to the Prime Minister on 24 April we have at the Secretary-General's request told the Turks that we hoped Denktash would be encouraged to give the Secretary-General a helpful response to his request for early progress. We made a similar approach to Denktash, who took it well. The Secretary-General has since asked us, the US and the FRG for support in his efforts to convince the Turks that the changes made in the documentation are balanced and do not alter the principles previously agreed. We do not believe we can credibly carry out this request without having seen the documents, even if we wanted to become engaged in points of detail, which we do not. The Foreign Secretary plans to send a message during the course of next week to the Turkish Foreign Minister, Halefoglu, to prepare the ground for a meeting with him in Lisbon on 6-7 June.

While the Turks are arguing in public that nothing more can be done until after 23 June, we believe they are also encouraging Denktash to keep lines open to the Secretary-General. They have hinted to us that after June Denktash will behave. Despite an outburst by the new Greek President, Sartzetakis, to our retiring Ambassador, Cyprus still has not emerged as an issue in the Greek elections (due on 2 June). There is thus a reasonable chance of some progress after 23 June.

*Yours ever,  
Colin Budd*

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Private Secretary

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