

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

23 October 1985

Dear Sir,

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL ON 23 OCTOBER
CYPRUS

During her meeting with the Secretary General of the United Nations this morning, the Prime Minister discussed Cyprus.

The Prime Minister said that President Kyprianou had told her at CHOGM about his great concern regarding the current situation. She thought that the prospects of an agreement were slender, even though the two sides were not all that far apart. She asked about what she could do to help the Secretary General's initiative.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar agreed that the two sides were close, both intellectually and on many details. He had been told by both the Greeks and the Turks not to act because of the difficulties created by the forthcoming elections. Nevertheless, he felt that he had a moral duty to try to carry matters forward. The Prime Minister asked whether it would be possible to obtain agreement before the elections. Mr. Perez de Cuellar believed this impossible, though differences between the Greek Cypriot parties were not large. He had written a completely impartial paper which though he would proclaim it as new, was in fact based on the old ideas. He believed that his initiative could have widespread support in the Security Council. He hoped that it might be possible to move from statements to stronger action, including discussions with the two mother countries.

The Prime Minister advised the Secretary General to go ahead with his plans and she undertook to try to persuade President Kyprianou to co-operate. She would remind him that he might lose an opportunity of restoring a unitary Cyprus.

Yours sincerely
Nigel Wicks

Nigel Wicks

Len Appleyard, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.