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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 April 1986

Cyprus

Thank you for your letter of 14 April with which you enclosed a possible message from the Prime Minister to President Kyprianou.

The Prime Minister saw the various telegrams over the weekend and would be content for a message to issue covering A and B of the points suggested by the United Nations Secretary General but omitting point C. The draft enclosed with your letter meets this admirably and it may issue. I agree that it would be prudent to let Denktash and Ankara know in general terms the basis on which we are proceeding.

BF

(CHARLES POWELL)

C.R. Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

14 April 1986

Dear Charles,

Discussed with
Sir Austin who has
approved the message.
COF 14/4.

Cyprus

// We have now received detailed suggestions from the Secretary General (UKMis telegram numbers 356 and 357 attached) concerning a possible message from the Prime Minister to President Kyprianou.

/ We have consulted posts. Despite the concerns of HMA Athens (Athens telegram number 183, copy enclosed), our view is that it would be helpful for the Prime Minister to send the attached message to Kyprianou. (I have consulted Lady Young, who agrees. I am consulting the Foreign Secretary in parallel with this letter.)

/ As you will see, the proposed message covers the points (a) and (b) suggested by the UN Secretary General but omits point (c). We believe that (c) is too detailed; and it also covers an issue which was not raised by Kyprianou with the Prime Minister. As Sir M Russell points out, if it were to become known that we had pressed it, we could run into problems with the Turks. (Ankara telegram 205, attached.) In our view, point (b) says all that needs to be said at this stage: it should be enough to cover Kyprianou's concern that the key issues of troop withdrawals, guarantees and the three freedoms should not be left to one side. Omitting point (c) will also meet most of HMA Athens' concerns.

We have a problem on timing. The Secretary General has set 21 April as a deadline for acceptance. Kyprianou however unexpectedly flew to Athens this morning. We understand that he is to meet Papandreou at 5pm our time this evening. Their aim will no doubt be to agree a joint line on the documentation. All the signs are that Papandreou will encourage Kyprianou not to proceed as now proposed by the UN. We believe that it would be very useful if the Ambassador in Athens could deliver the attached message to Kyprianou at his hotel before he sees Papandreou. We have warned him to stand by to do so.

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We think it important to let Denktash and Ankara know in general terms - in the context of a general demarche urging acceptance of the documentation - what we are doing. The Greek Cypriot side has already leaked the fact that the Prime Minister showed some sympathy for Kyprianou's predicament when she saw him on 7 April: some Greek papers have suggested that we are taking up his points with the UN. We have had the Turkish Embassy here pressing us for clarification. We would not tell the Turks that we were looking for ways in which Kyprianou might avoid signing the documentation. We would say only that we were pressing him to commit himself to it.

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

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