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CYPRUS

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D I O. CABINET OFFICE

~~MR DEREK THOMAS~~

MR RATFORD

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TO DESKEY/211200Z FCO

TELNO 147

OF 211030Z APRIL 86

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK, ATHENS, ANKARA,

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INFO PRIORITY MODUK (SEC O C), CBFC

MY TELNO 141: CYPRUS: UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S INITIATIVE

SUMMARY

GREEK CYPRIOT REPLY DELIVERED ON 20 APRIL, PROPOSING AN ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURE. TURKISH CYPRIOT REPLY STILL AWAITED.

1. HOLGER TOLD MY COUNSELLOR ON 21 APRIL THAT PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HAD GIVEN HIM ON THE PREVIOUS EVENING A LETTER TO THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL. THE GREEK CYPRIOTS HAD BRIEFED THE PRESS ON THE CONTENTS, AND THESE ARE GIVEN IN TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS. MACOVU HAS GIVEN ME (AND OTHER COLLEAGUES) THE TEXT OF THE REPLY (IN MIFT).

2. MACOVU TOLD ME THAT KYPRIANOU HAD OFFERED TO SEND HIM TO NEW YORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE WAY FORWARD. ACCORDING TO HOLGER (PLEASE PROTECT) KYPRIANOU HAD BEEN QUITE PRESSING ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY OF MACOVU VISITING NEW YORK BEFORE GOING ON TO MOSCOW AT THE END OF APRIL.

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3. THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAVE NOT YET DELIVERED THEIR REPLY. THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR TOLD HOLGER ON 18 APRIL THAT THE REPLY WAS READY AND POSITIVE, BUT THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WERE THEN STILL DISCUSSING ITS MANNER OF DELIVERY.

COMMENT

4. THIS IS THE EXPECTED EQUIVOCAL GREEK CYPRIOT REPLY. IT IS OBVIOUSLY INTENDED TO BE SEEN AS AN INTERIM ANSWER WHICH DOES NOT RULE OUT ACCEPTANCE OF THE "DRAFT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT", BUT PREDICATES ITS ACCEPTANCE ON PRIOR DISCUSSION OF THE SECURITY QUESTIONS. FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE QUESTION OF TURKISH SETTLERS HAS BEEN LINKED IN AN OFFICIAL GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNICATION TO THAT OF TURKISH OCCUPATION TROOPS.

5. JACOVOU TOLD ME THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT THE SUGGESTION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO PROVE A STARTER. HE WAS ALSO AT PAINS TO POINT OUT THAT THE SUGGESTION, AS WORDED, WAS BY NO MEANS THE SAME AS THE SOVIET PROPOSAL AND THAT THE CYPRUS GOVT HAD REFUSED AKEL PRESSURE TO INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO THE LATTER.

6. HOLGER'S PERSONAL HOPE IS THAT JACOVOU COULD BE PREVENTED FROM GOING TO NEW YORK IN ORDER TO AVOID FRESH TURKISH CYPRIOT ACCUSATIONS THAT THE UN IS TREATING THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE MORE FAVOURABLE THAN THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS.

7. NOW THAT THE ESSENCE OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT RESPONSE TO PEREZ DE CUELLAR HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED, THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WILL NO DOUBT CONSIDER FURTHER THE HANDLING OF THEIR OWN REPLY. THEY MAY BE TEMPTED TO SAY THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOT RESPONSE JUSTIFIES THEIR WITHHOLDING THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF THE "DRAFT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT", AND GOING THEIR OWN WAY. THE ALTERNATIVE, WHICH HOLGER THINKS MORE LIKELY (AND I AGREE WITH HIM), IS THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WILL SEEK TO EMBARRASS THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AND TO EARN INTERNATIONAL CREDIT BY MAKING A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO PEREZ DE CUELLAR AND GIVING IT MAXIMUM PUBLICITY. THEY MAY EVEN SEEK TO DELIVER THEIR ANSWER PERSONALLY TO PEREZ DE CUELLAR.

WILBERFORCE