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NICOSIA TELNO 171: THE CYPRUS PROBLEM: UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S  
INITIATIVE.

SUMMARY

GREEK CYPRIOTS LIKELY TO REPLY SUBSTANTIVELY TO UN SECRETARY  
GENERAL'S DRAFT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT BY EARLY JUNE.

- HOLGER RESPONDED ON 12 MAY TO THE QUESTIONS WHICH MACOVOU  
HAD PUT TO HIM IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DELIVERY OF THE UN SECRETARY  
GENERAL'S ORAL MESSAGE TO KYPRIANOU OF 8 MAY (PARA 4 OF UKMIS  
NEW YORK TELNO 468).
- KYPRIANOU'S LETTER OF 20 APRIL HAD BEEN WIDELY PUBLISHED.  
DENKTASH WAS ON RECORD AS HAVING SEEN IT AND AS HAVING DECLARED  
BOTH THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOT IDEAS RAN COUNTER TO THE SECRETARY  
GENERAL'S DRAFT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT AND THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS  
WERE OPPOSED TO ANY DEVIATION FROM PEREZ DE CUELLAR'S APPROACH.  
MACOVOU HAD ALSO CLAIMED THERE WAS STRONG INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR  
THE GREEK CYPRIOT PROPOSALS. HOLGER MADE NO COMMENT ON THIS SAVE  
THAT IT WAS A MATTER FOR THE GREEK CYPRIOTS' ASSESSMENT. HOLGER  
LIKEWISE MADE NO JUDGEMENT ON THE SOVIET PROPOSALS AS SUCH. BUT  
HE NOTED THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAD REACTED NEGATIVELY TO THEM,  
AND THAT OTHER COUNTRIES WERE KNOWN NOT TO BE IN FAVOUR. HE POINTED  
OUT THAT THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL WAS NOT A MEDIATOR, AND THAT IT  
WAS NOT COMPATIBLE WITH HIS GOOD OFFICES MISSION TO PROMOTE IDEAS  
KNOWN TO BE UNACCEPTABLE TO EITHER SIDE.
- IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, HOLGER SOUGHT ON A PERSONAL  
BASIS TO ALLAY MACOVOU'S ANXIETY THAT THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL  
MIGHT WANT TO PIN THE GREEK CYPRIOTS DOWN TO MAKING A VERY RAPID  
RESPONSE TO HIS DRAFT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT. MACOVOU SAID THAT THE  
GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD OFFER A REPLY, BUT THIS COULD NOT BE SENT  
IN UNDER ABOUT THREE WEEKS FROM NOW. MACOVOU MADE PLAIN THAT THE  
REPLY WOULD BE FULL OF IF'S AND BUTS: OBTAINING AGREEMENT FROM THE  
GREEK CYPRIOT PARTY LEADERS ON IT WOULD BE A DIFFICULT MATTER,  
AND COMPLICATED BY ABSENCES FROM CYPRUS IN THE NEAR FUTURE OF  
CLERIDES AND LYSSARIDES. HE COMMENTED THAT PEREZ DE CUELLAR'S



CLERMIDES AND LYSSARIDES. HE COMMENTED THAT PEREZ DE CUELLAR'S MESSAGE OF 8 MAY HAD RE-OPENED DIVISIONS ON THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE.

4. THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE TEMPORARY CONSENSUS AROUND KYPRIANOU'S LETTER OF 20 APRIL MIGHT BE EVAPORATING. CLERMIDES HAS TOLD HOLGER THAT HE FORESAW PRECISELY THE TURN EVENTS HAVE TAKEN AND REGARDED THE REPLY AS WELL-JUDGED AND WELL-DRAFTED. CLERMIDES HOPES TO FOLLOW UP HIS CONTACTS IN LONDON DURING HIS CURRENT VISIT WITH CALLS ON CHIRAC, IN WEST GERMANY AND ON MITSOTAKIS TO DISCUSS HIS VIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. IT IS HARD TO SEE HOW LYSSARIDES (EDEK) CAN BE BROUGHT IN FROM THE INTRANSIGENT POSITION IN WHICH HE HAS DUG HIMSELF. AKEL FACE A PAINFUL DILEMMA IN WHICH LOYALTY TO THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S INITIATIVE WILL STRUGGLE AGAINST THEIR MORE RECENT ATTACHMENT TO THE SOVIET PROPOSALS.

5. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN RUMOURS IN THE RIGHT WING GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS THAT MACOVOU WILL BE REPLACED AS FOREIGN MINISTER, POSSIBLY BY CHRISTOFIDES (MINISTER OF EDUCATION, AND THE EMISSARY RECENTLY DESPATCHED TO NORTH AMERICA TO JUSTIFY KYPRIANOU'S REPLY TO PEREZ DE CUELLAR.) CLERMIDES DISCOUNTS THE LIKELIHOOD OF THIS, BUT SOME OF THOSE OPPOSED TO THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S INITIATIVE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE BOTH MACOVOU AND MAVROMMATHIS (HIS DIRECTOR GENERAL) AS SCAPEGOATS FOR THE MESS THE GREEK CYPRIOTS HAVE GOT THEMSELVES INTO. THE PRESIDENT IS UNLIKELY TO GIVE WAY TO THESE ELEMENTS, PARTICULARLY AS IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF WEEKS SINCE HE REFUSED TO ACCEPT MAVROMMATHIS'S RESIGNATION. BUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A WITCH HUNT OF THOSE REGARDED AS BEING INSUFFICIENTLY TOUGH TOWARDS THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS SHOULD NOT BE DISCOUNTED: AT A LOWER LEVEL, THE GREEK CYPRIOT MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSING PERSONS (MICHAELIDES) IS SHORTLY TO BE REPLACED, AS WE EXPECTED. AS MACOVOU EXPLAINED TO HOLGER, MICHAELIDES IS A VERY HONOURABLE MAN WHO HAS BECOME PERSONA NON GRATA TO THE FANATICAL PRIEST WHO LEADS THE UNOFFICIAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTING THE RELATIVES OF GREEK CYPRIOT MISSING PERSONS.

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