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OF 061100Z AUGUST 86

INFO ROUTINE ATHENS, ANKARA, UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON

MT

CYPRUS PROBLEM

1. WHEN I PAID A ROUTINE CALL ON KYPRIANOU TODAY, THE RECENT ATTACK ON RAF AKROTIRI MEANT THAT MUCH OF OUR CONVERSATION WAS ABOUT TERRORISM. BUT I ASKED KYPRIANOU FOR HIS VIEWS ON WHAT MIGHT BE DONE NEXT OVER THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. HE REPLIED THAT HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO AN OPPORTUNITY OF GOING OVER THE WHOLE QUESTION IN DEPTH WITH PEREZ DE CUELLAR BEFORE REACHING A FIRM VIEW. HE ASSUMED (THOUGH HE HAD NOT HEARD ANYTHING FROM NEW YORK) THAT PEREZ DE CUELLAR WOULD NOT NOW BE GOING TO HARARE FOR THE NON-ALLIGNED MEETING AND THAT THEIR NEXT DISCUSSION WOULD THEREFORE BE IN NEW YORK AROUND 24 SEPTEMBER. HE INDICATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME CONTACT WITH THE UN SECRETARIAT ABOUT BRINGING HIS MEETING WITH PEREZ DE CUELLAR FORWARD SLIGHTLY FROM THAT DATE. SUBJECT TO THAT MEETING, KYPRIANOU SAID THAT HIS PRESENT VIEW WAS THAT PEREZ DE CUELLAR OUGHT AS THE NEXT STEP TO SET CAREFUL PREPARATIONS IN TRAIN FOR A HIGH LEVEL MEETING WITH HIMSELF AND DENKTASH, THE AGENDA OF WHICH SHOULD COVER THE THREE MAIN POINTS OF CONCERN TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS, BUT NOT TO THE EXCLUSION OF ANYTHING ELSE.

2. I MADE THE PERSONAL OBSERVATION THAT THE TEMPORARY INCAPACITY OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD STRENGTHENED MY FEELING, AFTER FOUR YEARS IN NICOSIA, THAT IT WAS VERY ODD THAT PROGRESS OVER THE CYPRUS PROBLEM WAS ALWAYS LEFT TO DEPEND ON THE SUGGESTIONS OF OUTSIDERS LIKE THE SECRETARY GENERAL, WHEREAS THE POSSIBILITY ALWAYS EXISTED FOR KYPRIANOU HIMSELF TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE AND HOLD DIRECT TALKS WITH DENKTASH IN NICOSIA, WITH THE POSSIBLY LESSER RISK OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS ARISING. DIRECT EXPLORATORY TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS COULD POSSIBLY CLEAR THE AIR BETWEEN THEM AND ENABLE THEM TO REACH A COMMON CONCEPT OF THE ELEMENTS OF A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT, AS WELL AS OF INTERIM MEASURES THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN IN ORDER TO MAKE CONCRETE PROGRESS TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT. KYPRIANOU'S RESPONSE WAS THAT THE SAME IDEA HAD SOMETIMES OCCURRED TO HIM. BUT HE THEN DRIFTED OFF INTO DOUBTS ABOUT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. MY CONCLUSION WAS THAT HE HAD NO IDEA OF DOING ANYTHING HIMSELF BUT WAIT FOR PEREZ DE CUELLAR TO MAKE FRESH SUGGESTIONS.

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3. ON MY WAY OUT, VOVIDES IN THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE TOLD ME THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT KYPRIANOU MIGHT WISH TO VISIT LONDON ON HIS WAY BACK FROM HARARE, AND THAT HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH ME ABOUT IT IF THIS PLAN BECAME FIRM. ALTHOUGH I DECIDED NOT TO ASK SPECIFICALLY, THIS CARRIED THE IMPLICATION THAT KYPRIANOU WOULD PROBABLY WISH THEN TO SEE THE PRIME MINISTER AGAIN.

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