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From the Private Secretary

1 July 1987

Dear Lyn,

The Cyprus High Commissioner has been in touch again this morning on the instructions of President Kyprianou to express strong feelings about the report on Cyprus which the Foreign Affairs Committee is to publish tomorrow. The Cyprus Government have apparently received an advance copy. President Kyprianou is particularly vexed by what he regards as slighting references to "Greek Cypriot" Ministers and even more by references to Ministers of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, who are not even described as "so-called". It is also suggested that Customs Union with the EC should only be considered after a solution to Cyprus' political problems. President Kyprianou hopes that the Prime Minister will ensure that HMG are disassociated from the report.

I said that the Government had no control at all about what Committees of the House published in their reports. We normally replied to such reports although not immediately. The High Commissioner said that President Kyprianou hoped that at least we would make clear in a statement that the Government recognised only the legitimate Government of Cyprus and not the so-called Turkish Republic, that we were not associated in any way with the Foreign Affairs Committee's views and that we continued to support the goal of Customs Union. I said that I would mention these points to you. I simply did not know whether it would be technically feasible for us to volunteer a statement on the lines sought by President Kyprianou. Anyway it might only serve to draw attention to the very points to which he objected.

I understand the High Commissioner will be seeking an appointment with the Minister of State, Mrs. Chalker.

Yours sincerely,

(C.D. POWELL)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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