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FM NICOSIA

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 198

OF 250950Z MAY 88

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK, ANKARA, ATHENS

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, PARIS, ROME, BONN, HQBFC, UKREP BRUSSELS

MY TELNO 191: UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S INITIATIVE

SUMMARY

CAMILION ENCOURAGED BY THE FAVOURABLE REACTION OF BOTH SIDES TO THE UN SUGGESTIONS. THE STAGE MAY SOON BE SET FOR A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN GENEVA IN LATE JUNE/EARLY JULY, AS A PRELUDE TO A 12 MONTH PERIOD OF INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS IN NICOSIA. THE GREEK CYPRIOTS MAY HOWEVER ASK FOR ANY ANNOUNCEMENT TO BE HELD UP UNTIL AFTER OZAL'S VISIT TO ATHENS, IN ORDER TO LEAVE THEMSELVES THE POSSIBILITY OF RE-CONSIDERING.

DETAIL

1. HAVING PREVIOUSLY GIVEN THE UN DRAFT DOCUMENTS (AS DESCRIBED IN UKMIS NEW YORK TELNO 6)39) TO VASSILIOU, CAMILION DID THE SAME WITH DENKTASH ON 23 MAY. ALTHOUGH THIS WAS A LONG AND STORMY MEETING (WITH DENKTASH'S RAGE OVER THE PYLA SHOOTING RELEASING A TIDAL BARRAGE OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE UN), DENKTASH REACTED WELL TO THE UN SUGGESTIONS FOR A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING AND SEEMED DISPOSED TO ACCEPT THE FORMULA IN THE UN DRAFT DOCUMENTS AS THE BASIS FOR GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS. SO FAR AT LEAST, NEITHER SIDE HAS RAISED QUERIES OVER THE DRAFTING, THOUGH THIS MAY OF COURSE STILL COME. CAMILION HOPES THAT HE MAY BE ABLE TO FIRM UP THE PRESENT ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE BY BOTH SIDES BEFORE VASSILIOU LEAVES FOR NEW YORK ON 28 MAY.

2. IN EFFECT THERE SEEMS TO BE A TACIT TRADE OFF BY VIRTUE OF THE FORMULA OF HOLDING TALKS WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS. ON THE ONE HAND DENKTASH HAS ABANDONED HIS INSISTENCE ON PRIOR GREEK CYPRIOT ACCEPTANCE OF THE MARCH 1986 DRAFT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT (COVERING HIMSELF BY SAYING PUBLICLY THAT HE IS OF COURSE NO LONGER BOUND BY THE CONCESSIONS HE MADE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING UP TO IT). ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GREEK CYPRIOTS HAVE

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GIVEN UP THEIR INSISTENCE THAT THE NEXT STAGE OF TALKS SHOULD
BE CONFINED TO THEIR OWN THREE PRIORITY ISSUES. VASSILIOU
IS COMING UNDER SOME FLACK FOR THIS FROM THE REJECTIONIST FRONT.

WILBERFORCE

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