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FM NICOSIA  
TO PRIORITY FCO  
TELNO 332

PS TO PRIME MINISTER  
NO 10 DOWNING ST

OF 110655Z AUGUST 88  
INFO ROUTINE ATHENS, ANKARA, UKMIS NEW YORK  
INFO ROUTINE CBF CYPRUS

YOUR TELNO 192, PARA 5: PRESIDENT VASSILIOU'S NEXT VISIT TO THE UK

1. VASSILIOU TOLD ME ON 10 AUGUST HE HAD NO SPECIFIC PLANS TO VISIT THE UK. HE HAD AN OUTSTANDING, OPEN-DATED INVITATION TO SPEAK AT CHATHAM HOUSE, AND WOULD NO DOUBT PASS THROUGH OR NEAR LONDON AS FREQUENTLY IN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS AS HE HAD IN THE LAST SIX. HE WOULD BE TRAVELLING TO NEW YORK, FOR EXAMPLE, ON 6 OCTOBER.

2. HE SAID HE ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO DISCUSSION WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. HE WOULD WISH TO BRIEF HER ORALLY ON HIS FORTHCOMING MEETING(S) WITH DENKTASH. TO DO SO, HE WOULD BE GLAD TO COME TO LONDON ON WHATEVER BASIS AND AT A TIME WE PROPOSED.

3. I RECOMMEND THAT YOU CONSIDER WHETHER A SHORT WORKING VISIT COULD IN FACT BE FITTED IN AS VASSILIOU TRANSITS LONDON IN EARLY OCTOBER. BY THAT TIME, THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN A FIRST MEETING BETWEEN VASSILIOU AND DENKTASH IN NICOSIA, ASSUMING THOSE IN GENEVA GO REASONABLY. THE TIMING WOULD ALSO ENABLE US, IF NECESSARY, TO IMPRESS UPON VASSILIOU THE WISDOM OF RESTRAINT AT THE UNGA.

4. WITH RESPECT, I ADVISE GREAT CAUTION OVER THE IDEA IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF YOUR TUR. AS LOCAL DEBATE OVER VASSILIOU'S VISIT TO THE US HAS SHOWN, THE CYPRIOTS ARE CHRONICALLY PRONE TO MISREPRESENT THE STATUS OF THE PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN VISITS. MORE IMPORTANT IS THE RISK THAT DENKTASH WOULD STRONGLY RESENT BEING REMINDED BY US OF VASSILIOU'S SUPERIOR STATUS AS A REAL HEAD OF STATE. FOR HMG TO RUB IT IN WOULD CUT ACROSS THE UNSG'S EFFORT TO NURTURE AN INTER-COMMUNAL DIALOGUE BASED ON THE EQUAL FOOTING OF THE GREEK-CYPRIOT AND TURKISH-CYPRIOT LEADERS. I SUGGEST THAT THE QUESTION OF AN AUDIENCE OF THE QUEEN FOR VASSILIOU BE RECONSIDERED AFTER WE HAVE ADDRESSED THE ISSUE OF WHETHER MRS CHALKER, IF SHE VISITED CYPRUS, COULD CALL ON DENKTASH IN N NICOSIA.

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ADDITIONAL 13

CYPRUS

MR MAUD (HOMS)

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