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MY TELNO 110: UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S INITIATIVE

SUMMARY.

ROW CONTINUES OVER WHETHER OR NOT BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED PROCEDURE. GREEK CYPRIOTS PROBABLY LOOKING FOR EXCUSES TO PROVOKATE.

1. THE ROW OVER WHETHER OR NOT BOTH SIDES ACCEPTED THE PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING OUTSTANDING ISSUES (SEE TUR) CONTINUED OVER THE WEEKEND. MAVROMMATIS' LETTER TO HOLGER OF 1 APRIL HAS NOW BEEN PUBLISHED AS A STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN. THE LATTER STRESSED THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE HAD ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT THE APRIL DOCUMENTATION REPRESENTED ITS LAST WORD AND THAT NO FURTHER CONCESSIONS COULD BE ACCEPTED. THIS WAS CONVEYED TO THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL IN A LETTER FROM KYPRIANOU DELIVERED ON 21 MARCH, WHICH EMPHASISED THE "IMPORTANCE AND PRIORITY" OF THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES (GUARANTEES, TROOP WITHDRAWALS, THREE FREEDOMS) AND OF KEEPING TO THE PROCEDURE PROPOSED IN LAST APRIL'S DRAFT STATEMENT. MAVROMMATIS SAID THTHE GREEK SIDE HAD WARNED THE UN SECRETARIAT AGAINST HASTE IN THE PRESENTATION OF ANY NEW DOCUMENT WHICH HAD NOT BEEN FULLY AGREED BEFOREHAND, AND HE CLAIMED THE CURRENT DOCUMENT DEPARTED IN WAYS DETRIMENTAL TO THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE FROM ASSURANCES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN BY THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL (HE CITED THE DRAFT'S PASSAGES ON TERRITORY, EXECUTIVE AND PROCEDURE).

2. AS A RESULT OF THE ROW, MAVROMMATIS TENDERED HIS RESIGNATION TO KYPRIANOU, WHO TOLD ME ON 5 APRIL THAT HE HAD DECLINED TO ACCEPT IT.

3. ACCORDING TO HOLGER, THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT BOTH SIDES ACCEPTED THAT THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES SHOULD NOT (NOT) BE DEALT WITH IN THE CURRENT DOCUMENT, ALTHOUGH THE DETAILED WORDING OF THE DOCUMENT WAS NOT AGREED IN ADVANCE. HE HOPES THE SECRETARY

ACCEPTED THAT THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES SHOULD NOT (NOT) BE DEALT WITH IN THE CURRENT DOCUMENT, ALTHOUGH THE DETAILED WORDING OF THE DOCUMENT WAS NOT AGREED IN ADVANCE. HE HOPES THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL EXPLOIT HIS GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH MAVROMMATIS TO SMOOTH THINGS OVER DURING THE LATTER'S CURRENT VISIT TO NEW YORK, OSTENSIBLY ON OTHER BUSINESS.

4. MAVROMMATIS'S LETTER IS CONSISTENT WITH OTHER INDICATIONS THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE PICKING THEIR WAY THROUGH THE NEW DOCUMENT IN SEARCH OF POINTS TO ARGUE OVER. THE NEWSPAPER CLOSEST TO THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (7 APRIL) CARRIED AN ARTICLE LISTING ADVERSE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CURRENT AND APRIL 1985 DOCUMENTS.

5. OUR CONTACTS HERE INDICATE THAT GREEK CYPRIOT ANXIETIES ALSO EXTEND TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS (PARA 7 OF MY TELNO 109); KYPRIANOU EXPRESSED MISGIVINGS ON THIS SCORE WHEN I CALLED ON HIM WITH SIR M RUSSELL ON 5 APRIL. THE NATURE OF THE PACKAGE AS AN INTEGRATED WHOLE (PARA 2A OF UNMIS NEW YORK TELNO 325 - JUST RECEIVED) HAS ALSO BEEN QUESTIONED; JACOVOU WAS EXERCISED ON THIS POINT ON 4 APRIL. HE APPEARED TO ARGUE THAT THE NEW DRAFT OMITTED THE IMPORTANT PARA 9 OF THE DRAFT STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF APRIL 1985.

6. THE PRIME MINISTER'S FORTHCOMING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU RECEIVED WIDE COVERAGE IN TODAY'S GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS, WITH SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS EXPECTING THE PRIME MINISTER TO TRY TO PERSUADE KYPRIANOU TO ACCEPT THE CURRENT DOCUMENTATION.

7. THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PRESS HAVE, MEANWHILE, TAKEN UP THE THEME OF A REFERENDUM (PARA 6 OF MY TELNO 109), RECALLING THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAD SAID FOR A LONG TIME THAT ANY AGREEMENT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM IN THE NORTH. THE PRESS ALSO QUOTE AN OFFICIAL'S VIEWS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE DATES LEFT BLANK IN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT RELATING TO TROOP WITHDRAWALS, VAROSHA AND THE SIX ADDITIONAL AREAS WILL BE FIXED AFTER A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IS ESTABLISHED. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WILL BE PROVOKED TO TURN THEIR ATTENTION NOW TO THE BLANK DATES IN THE AGREEMENT, OVER WHICH THERE IS MUCH SCOPE FOR CONTROVERSY.

COMMENT:

8. IT SEEMS THE GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE SEEKING ALIBIS FOR DELAYING AND ULTIMATELY FUDGING THEIR RESPONSE TO THE NEW DRAFT. THE DANGER OF THIS IS THAT THEY RISK PLAYING INTO THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS' HANDS, IF THE LATTER ANNOUNCE UNQUALIFIED ACCEPTANCE OF THE DOCUMENT SUBJECT TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS' DOING THE SAME.

WILBERFORCE

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