

SECRET

011777  
MDHIAN 3190

SECRET  
FM ATHENS  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 102  
OF 230800Z MARCH 88  
INFO IMMEDIATE NICOSIA, ANKARA

NICOSIA (PERSONAL FOR HIGH COMMISSIONER)  
ANKARA (PERSONAL FOR AMBASSADOR)

CYPRUS: MRS THATCHER'S VISIT TO ANKARA

1. CAPSIS, ALTERNATE FOREIGN MINISTER, ASKED ME TO CALL ON 22 MARCH. HE HAD JUST SEEN PAPANDREOU WHO HAD ASKED ME TO TRANSMIT A MESSAGE FROM HIM TO MRS THATCHER. PAPANDREOU WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL IF, WHEN SHE SAW OZAL, MRS THATCHER COULD TRY TO PERSUADE HIM TO TAKE TWO STEPS WHICH HE THOUGHT WERE NOW FUNDAMENTAL TO MAKING PROGRESS ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE.

2. THE FIRST WAS THAT OZAL SHOULD MEET VASSILIOU INFORMALLY. PAPANDREOU UNDERSTOOD THAT A FORMAL MEETING WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. BUT HE THOUGHT THAT IT OUGHT TO BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE AN INFORMAL MEETING BETWEEN OZAL AND VASSILIOU, PERHAPS IN THE MARGIN OF A CONFERENCE OR A MEETING BETWEEN OZAL AND DENKTASH IN CYPRUS.

3. THE SECOND POINT WAS TO PERSUADE OZAL OF THE NEED TO FIX A CONVINCING TIMETABLE FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE TURKISH TROOPS. CAPSIS SAID THAT PAPANDREOU ACCEPTED THAT THIS WOULD NEED TO BE MATCHED BY THE DISMANTLING OF THE NATIONAL GUARD. PAPANDREOU HAD ALREADY PROPOSED TO OZAL THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN INCREASE IN THE UNITED NATIONS FORCE, WHICH SHOULD INCLUDE UNITS FROM MOSLEM COUNTRIES.

4. CAPSIS ASKED US TO KEEP THIS MESSAGE ON A VERY RESTRICTED BASIS. PAPANDREOU WAS SENSITIVE ABOUT ANY OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN THE DAVOS PROCESS. CAPSIS WAS NOT TELLING ANYBODY IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ABOUT OUR CONVERSATION. HE IMPLIED THAT PAPANDREOU WAS GETTING WORRIED ABOUT THE CRITICISM OF THE DAVOS PROCESS TO THE EFFECT THAT PAPANDREOU WAS ABANDONING GREEK BASIC POSITIONS. PAPANDREOU NOW NEEDED SOME TURKISH MOVEMENT OVER CYPRUS.

5. I UNDERTOOK TO PASS ON THE MESSAGE, WHICH LORD CARRINGTON LATER

SECRET

011777  
MDHIAN 3190

IN THE DAY TOLD ME PAPANDEOU HAD MENTIONED TO HIM.

6. CAPSIS CONCLUDED BY COMMENTING THAT VASSILIOU HAD MADE A VERY GOOD IMPRESSION IN ATHENS.

THOMAS

YYYY

DISTRIBUTION

128

MAIN 116

CYPRUS  
LIMITED  
SED  
UND  
LEGAL ADVISERS  
DEFENCE  
SEC POL D  
WED  
INFO  
NAD  
NEWS

PUSD  
PLANNERS  
SOVIET  
PS/MRS CHALKER  
PS/LORD GLENARTHUR  
PS/MR EGGAR  
PS/PUS  
SIR J FRETWELL  
MR BOYD  
MR RATFORD  
MR MUNRO

ADDITIONAL 12

CYPRUS

NNNN