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6. FYI: Regarding the Cyprus talks Ambassador Anderson said yesterday at the State Department that:

1/9/75
"With regard to Cyprus, I would like to say that the United States welcomes the announcement in Nicosia [yesterday] that the representatives of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities will begin political talks on January 14. We believe that with imagination, flexibility, and goodwill the parties are now in a position to move ahead expeditiously toward the conciliation that all seek. The United States fully supports these expanded negotiations and stands ready to assist the parties in any way it can."

1/16/75
5. The Baltimore Sun this morning reports that Administration officials are optimistic that enough Cyprus progress will be made to avoid the Turkish aid cut-off after February 5. Is the Administration indeed so optimistic?

GUIDANCE: In recent days the State Department has expressed the Administration's gratification over the opening of substantive talks between the two sides in Cyprus and we are hopeful that these talks will produce progress toward a lasting settlement on Cyprus. I would not want to speculate further on this subject at a time when the two parties are negotiating.

2. Are you concerned about the recent violence in Cyprus? Will this set back the peace negotiations?

GUIDANCE: The State Department protested to the government of Cyprus over the damage to the U. S. Embassy on Saturday. We are, of course, hopeful that the current negotiations between the two parties will continue to make progress. I suggest you check with State for the current status report.

1/30/75

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AND WE
APPRECIATE THE
EFFECTIVE ACTION
OF THE GOVT OF
PRES. KALANIDIS.
(with some set
of course & info)

7. Is the Administration optimistic that enough progress will be made on Cyprus before February 5 to avoid a cut off of aid to Turkey?

Guidance: The State Department spoke to this at some length yesterday pointing out that the two sides are beginning to deal with substantive political issues and the tempo of the talks have increased. We are of course hopeful that progress will be made and we are working with the Congress as the February 5 deadline approaches.

1/24/75

3. Does the Administration feel enough progress is being made on Cyprus to avoid the February 5th cut off of aid to Turkey?

1/29/75

Guidance: As Secretary Kissinger said yesterday, we believe that progress on Cyprus is possible and will be made before February 5th. We are in close contact with the Congress on this matter and are keeping them informed on the state of the negotiations. The Secretary said the United States has made major efforts to achieve rapid progress in the Cyprus negotiations and he also pointed out that the Administration is opposed to a cut off of aid to Turkey regardless of what progress may be made in the negotiations because U.S. aid to Turkey is in the interest of Western security.

3. Yesterday the State Department noted that the withdrawal of 1,000 Turkish troops from Cyprus was "a positive step". Does the White House expect enough progress by February 5 to avoid a Turkish arms cut-off?

GUIDANCE: We believe that progress on Cyprus is possible and we are hopeful that further progress will be made in the negotiations between the parties on Cyprus. We are in close contact with Congress and are keeping the appropriate members informed on the state of the negotiations. Sec. Kissinger pointed out on Tuesday that the U. S. has made major efforts to achieve rapid progress in the Cyprus negotiations.

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1/30/75

2. Do you have any reaction to the announcement this morning that the ~~Turkish Cypriots have formed a federal state on Cyprus?~~ 2/13/75

GUIDANCE: We have noted the developments that occurred this morning, but I would think we would want to have more information before we can comment specifically. I suggest you check with the Department of State on this.

As you know, it has been our policy from the outset to offer our services in doing everything possible to help the parties with a settlement on Cyprus and we continue to be ready to be of any assistance the parties may desire.



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2/14/75
2. Is the Administration concerned about Makarios' call for Soviet assistance to counter the establishment of a separate Turkish Cypriot state and his call for taking the issue to the UN Security Council? Does the Administration feel that this development is a result of Congressional restrictions on aid to Turkey and a result of lack of U.S. influence?

2/14/75
2. GUIDANCE: The State Department issued a statement yesterday expressing the regret of the United States over these developments. The President is following these developments closely, and as the statement issued yesterday noted, we continue to support the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Cyprus, and we are continuing to do our utmost to further the process of negotiation. I suggest that you check with the Department of State for details on these matters.

State Department Statement on Cyprus :

FYI ONLY: The United States regrets the action that has been announced today. We support the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus, and have sought to discourage unilateral actions by either side that would complicate efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement. We believe that any eventual solution to the Cyprus problem must be found through a process of negotiation, a process which has been underway. We have fully supported this process, and were instrumental in reestablishing the Clerides-Denktash talks, which we continue to support. We had also hoped that we could give additional impetus to the negotiations by meetings between Sec. Kissinger and interested parties during his present Middle Eastern trip. Regrettably, however, events in recent weeks have made it impossible for these meetings to go forward as previously planned and have clearly reduced our ability to influence the outcome. Nevertheless the United States will continue to do its utmost to further the process of negotiation.

4/21/75

CYPRUS SITUATION

Q: Mr. President, our understanding is that the talks between the two Cypriot communities are scheduled to begin again on April 28 in Vienna. Does this development increase the prospects of achieving a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus dispute at an early date?

A: I support the resumption of the intercommunal talks. In my view such consultations offer the best hope of achieving a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem agreeable to all -- Greece, Turkey and Cyprus. At the same time, we will continue to offer our good offices in the efforts by the parties directly involved to reach an equitable settlement.

April 28, 1975

TALKS ON THE CYPRUS SITUATION

The talks between the Greek and Cypriot communities are beginning today in Vienna. The talks are being conducted under the auspices of the United Nations pursuant to a Security Council resolution encouraging their resumption. Representing the Turkish Cypriots is Rauf Denktaş and representing the Greek Cypriots Mr. Glackos Clerides. U.N. Secretary General Waldheim will also participate.

Q. What is the President's reaction to the talks currently underway in Vienna on the Cyprus situation?

A. The President supports the resumption of the intercommunal talks. In his view such consultations offer the best hope of achieving a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem agreeable to all -- Greece, Turkey and Cyprus. At the same time, we will continue to offer our good offices in the efforts by the parties directly involved to reach an equitable settlement.

CYPRUS DEMONSTRATIONSBACKGROUND

Cypriot authorities are taking strong precautionary measures to protect American lives and property during the planned demonstration outside the U. S. Embassy to protest the new U. S. - Turkish Defense Cooperation Agreement. The demonstration is to be accompanied by similar rallies throughout the Greek Cypriot zone. The Cypriot intelligence service has kept U. S. officials in Nicosia informed of expected or contemplated actions by the demonstrators and have offered suggestions on what precautions U. S. officials might want to take. For a summary of U. S. actions, see attached classified cable.

* * * *

If asked, about the demonstrations, you may say that we are watching the situation closely and working with Cypriot authorities to ensure the safety of U. S. lives and property. You may refer to State for details of what steps are being taken.

[State Guidance from NEA]

Q: Why have US aircraft suddenly arrived at the British base in Cyprus?

A: There are 4 rescue helicopters and 3 tanker/rescue aircraft positioned at the British base of Akrotiri, Cyprus with the permission of HMG to support Sixth Fleet operations in the Eastern Mediterranean and to conduct humanitarian relief and/or life-saving operations in Lebanon if required.

Q: What exactly will they do?

A: I am not going to get into a discussion of the details of our contingency planning.

Q: Are they armed?

A: No.

Q: Are there 1000 US troops as reported in the Cyprus press?

A: There are no more than the normal crew, maintenance and communications personnel associated with our operations there -- totalling about 125.

CYPRUS SITUATION -- TURKISH MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Q: Mr. President, military assistance to Turkey was cut off on February 5 as required by the Congress. How will this action affect the Cyprus negotiations and our relations with Turkey?

A: As I have already stated, I deeply regret the action of Congress in cutting off military assistance to Turkey. We have expressed to Congress the strong belief of this Administration that a cut off of aid to Turkey in the present situation is counterproductive, impeding rather than facilitating the negotiating process on Cyprus. Beyond limiting our ability to work with all the parties to the Cyprus dispute and damaging our relations with an important ally, the aid suspension could have far reaching and damaging effects on the overall political stability in the eastern Mediterranean and even the Middle East.

We are now working with the Congress with a view to finding a way of satisfactorily resolving this issue. In the meantime, we will also continue to do what ever we can to encourage the parties involved to make progress toward a negotiated settlement of the difficult and complex Cyprus situation.

CYPRUS SITUATION

Q: Mr. President, talks between the two Cypriot communities were held last week in Vienna. Has this development increased the prospects of achieving a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus dispute at an early date?

A: In my opinion, the resumption of the intercommunal talks is a sign of progress. In my view, such consultations offer the best hope of achieving a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem agreeable to all -- Greece, Turkey and Cyprus. We will continue to offer our good offices in the efforts by the parties directly involved to reach an equitable settlement.

CYPRUS SITUATION

Q: Mr. President, based on your consultations with the Greek and Turkish Prime Ministers in Brussels, do you expect the intercommunal talks in Vienna to produce progress toward a Cyprus settlement?

A: I believe that my meetings with Prime Ministers Caramanlis and Demirel were very useful, and that this was reflected in the positive tone of their subsequent meeting in Brussels. The resumption of the intercommunal talks in Vienna -- with the support of both Greece and Turkey -- is an encouraging sign of progress which I welcome. In my view, such consultations offer the best hope of achieving a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem agreeable to all -- Greece, Turkey and Cyprus. The talks between the two communities in Vienna under the aegis of Secretary General Waldheim have been quite encouraging. In the meantime, we will continue to offer our good offices to assist the parties directly involved to reach an equitable solution to this difficult and complex problem.