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### ATTACK ON ECHEVIT

- Q. Do you consider that the security measures to protect Echevit in New York were adequate?
- A. We believe that they were precisely what was needed as proved by the successful handling of the incident last night.
- Q. Are security details being strengthened as a result of the incident in New York?
- A. I cannot give you the exact details of our security measures, but security at each location will be provided in accordance with perceived needs. However, I can assure you we are not taking any chances.
- Q. What is the status of the case against Mr. Stavros Sykopetripis?
- A. You should check with the Justice Department. However, we understand that Mr. Sykopetripis is to be arraigned this morning. The FBI is investigating this incident under the Act for the protection of foreign nations.
- FYI ONLY: Echevit is not a foreign national, but he is covered as a former head of government.
- Q: Did the President apologize to leaders of opposition Ecevit?
- A: Secretary Kissinger telephoned Ecevit after the incident last night to express our regret over the incident and our relief that the potential assailant was unsuccessful.

Von. Please get approval and sand. RAN

### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MR. PRESIDENT:

Attached revised statement on Turkish action against American bases.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE TO THE PRESS:

**OTHER:** 

RAN

RON NESSEN

Approved, as revised, & Scouroft and Rumsbeld

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## JULY 25, 1975

## Office of the White House Press Secretary

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

## STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

### Announcement

I deeply regret the decision of the Government of Turkey to suspend all American activities at joint U.S.-Turkish defense installations and to take over control and supervision of these important installations.

I repeatedly warned the House of Representatives of extremely serious consequences, such as this, if the United States failed to restore military sales and credits to our Turkish allies. I again want to praise those House members of both parties who heeded my Af A feathwarning and voted in the national interest. Now, less than 24 hours of after yesterday's 223-206 vote in the House of Representatives, Turkey has anounced actions which I believe will work to the detriment of very important U.S. security interests.

In view of these very damaging developments, I again urge the tradited House of Representatives to reconsider its refusal to restore U.S. accience to Turkey. Prompt, affirmative action by the House of Representatives is essential to the vital national defense interests of our country. the Value Store, cour partners in the

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## Turkey-U.S. Resume Talks on Bases

Murrey Marder's front page (<u>Post</u>) story today reports that Turkey has agreed to reopen talks on the use of American military and intelligence bases and to encourage negotiations on "all aspects" of the Cyprus dispute. The announcement was made by Turkish Foreign Minister CAGLAYANGIL. The discussions will be held in Ankara with U.S. Ambassador William Macomber, Jr.

Q: What do we expect from these discussions?

A: We are seeking to rebuild our security relationship with Turkey

as the President said in his statement following the passage of Certalation

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ARTIES IN facilitate progress on the Cyprus negotiations and we welcome

the Turkish statements in this regard.

Q: What can you tell us about the status of the bases now and Turkey's present feeling about total reactivation?

A: For more specific information, I suggest you check with State.

### US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT

- Q: Mr. President, may we have your reaction to the conclusion of the new US-Turkish Defense Cooperation Agreement, signed on Friday evening, March 26 by Secretary Kissinger and Turkish Foreign Minister Caglayangil?
- A: It is a source of great satisfaction that the United States and Turkey have successfully concluded the negotiation of a new Defense Cooperation Agreement. The new agreement reflects the very important defense interests we share with the Government of Turkey as NATO allies --I reviewed these issues personally with the Turkish Foreign Minister on Wednesday. The new agreement makes an important contribution to the national security interests of the United States, and it is therefore very much to be welcomed.
- Q: What are the details?
  - A: By mutual agreement with the Government of Turkey, the details will be announced simultaneously in Ankara and Washington at the beginning of next week. We will have a detailed review of the agreement at that time.

## TURKEY, GREECE AND CYPRUS

- Q: How do you explain the aid levels for Greece and Turkey in the absence of movement toward a Cyprus settlement?
- A: The action of Congress in partially lifting the arms embargo against Turkey marked an essential first step in our efforts:
  - -- to assist the parties directly involved in the Cyprus negotiations to move toward a peaceful and equitable settlement;
  - -- to continue American assistance to ease the plight of Cyprus refugees;
  - -- to restore the proper balance in our relations with Turkey;
  - -- to work with Greece to determine that country's most urgent needs for economic and military assistance;
  - and, collectively, through these efforts, to safeguard
    with our friends and allies our vital strategic interests
    in the Eastern Mediterranean.

The present request is an attempt to continue with these efforts, which we believe give the best hope of lasting peace in the area. Q: Mr. Drosident, An retaliation for the cut-off in U.S. military aid, the Turkish Government has called for negotiations to begin in 30 days on the status of U.S. bases and facilities in Turkey. In your opinion, will a reduced U.S. military presence in Turkey have an adverse impact on U.S. and NATO security interests in the eastern Mediterranean?

A: A note from the Government of Turkey on the subject of U.S. bases in

Turkey was just delivered to our embassy in Ankara, and we will, of course, the President be giving careful attention to this communication. As I have stated in the past, Turkey is a longstanding friend and ally. A strongly supports resumption of military assistance to Turkey. Congressional approval of the Mansfield-Scott legislation passed by the Senate will rectify the current situation and restore a proper relationship between the United States and Turkey.

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## RESTORATION OF MILITARY AID TO TURKEY

## FACT SHEET

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- 1. United States military assistance to an old and faithful ally, Turkey, was cut off on February 5 by action of the Congress. This has imposed an embargo on military purchases by Turkey, extending even to items already paid for. (278M)
  - Although the Senate's passage of the Mansfield-Scott Bill was an important first step toward reestablishing with Turkey our credibility as a trusted friend and ally, **Turkish trust in the United States remains as a trusted friend and ally**. Turkish trust in the United States remains shaken. At Brussels, the President and Turkish Prime Minister discussed the military aid cut-off and other aspects of our relations. The Government of Turkey expressed bewilderment and disbelief over the military aid embargo -- citing it as totally contrary to our common interests and our historic ties.
  - Our longstanding relationship with Turkey is not a favor to Turkey. It is a clear and essential mutual interest. Turkey lies on the rim of the Soviet Union and at the gates of the Middle East. It is vital to the security of the eastern Mediterranean, the southern flank of Western Europe and the collective security of the Western alliance.
    - With approximately half a million men under arms, including NATO's, second largest land force (375,000 men), and a key strategic position vis-a-vis the Soviet Union and the Middle East, Turkey makes a vital contribution to the Western alliance. NATO military authorities have stated that a continuation of the U.S. ban on mutual aid to Turkey will seriously degrade the capability of all branches of the Turkish armed forces, and their reinforcement by NATO forces in a time of tension. The U.S. ban therefore imposes a grave limitation on NATO's military posture in the southern region.
- 5. The aid cut-off by the Congress was intended to influence Turkey in the Cyprus negotiations. But the results of the Congressional action have been to block progress towards reconciliation, thereby prolonging the suffering on Cyprus; complicating our ability to promote successful negotiations; and increasing the danger of a broader conflict.
  - The Turkish aid cut-off has not forced concessions from the Turks. Instead, it has hardened their position in the Cyprus crisis; it has fueled Greek-Turkish tensions in the Aegean; and we now run the very real risk of serious damage to US-Turkish relations and NATO relations.

- 7. Our goal continues to assist the parties in the Cyprus crisis -- Greece, Turkey and Cyprus -- to reach a settlement which accommodates the interests of each -- and, in turn, contributes to the stability of the Mediterranean and the continuing strength of the Alliance. The attitudes of Greece and Turkey are of central importance and we cannot continue to alienate one of the major participants.
- 8. There is growing frustration and irritation in Turkey over this penalization of a trusted friend and ally by the United States. In this regard, the Turkish Government in mid-June set a 30-day deadline for resumption of aid or consultations on reductions of U.S. facilities on Turkish soil. Turkish moves against our installations would have an adverse impact on U.S. and NATO security interests in the Eastern Mediterranean, and would also further damage prospects for a Cyprus settlement.
- 9. House approval of legislation which restores a proper balance in our relationship with Turkey and which is fair and equitable to Turkey and to Greece will increase our flexibility in working with both sides on a solution to the Cyprus problem.
- 10. Without this legislation, progress toward settlement will not be made and the situation will almost certainly deteriorate. This will work against the interests of all -- Greece, Turkey and Cyprus, the United States and NATO.
- 11. To sum up, the need is for immediate legislation to restore to an important NATO ally access to U.S. sources of supply for spares, components, and other material compatible with previously supplied U.S. military equipment. "After the other provides will enable Turkey to fulfill its NATO role, will safeguard vital U.S. installations in Turkey, and will remove a substantial impediment to progress in the Cyprus negotiations.

Nell just brought this by...

General Scowcroft is in with the President... he brought this out to Nell and said we can put this out.... he then went back in with the President.

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# STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I deeply regret the decision of the Government of Turkey to BREVICan suspend all activities at joint U.S. -Turkish defense control and supervision of installations and 🖬 House Rymathers important these installations by the Turkish Armed Forces. I repeatedly warned the congress of And again teknely Sessous) consequences such as this which could be expected if the United alles Dow, less sales + credits States failed to restore military to Turkey has a drouged actions which is the to believe 24 hours work to the detriment of very important U.S. todat's desiston by TURKEY prove Constrays 24-206 ANO security interests and in particular, those interests which we share int partners in the Eastern Mediterranean. with furkey and our other in In view of these most recent, very damaging developments, I again) 11RGE express the hope that the House of Representatives and reconsider its Refusal to destore V.S. You p failure to act affirmatively on restoration of assistance to Turkey firmative action by INTEVESTS Theto the vital national defense is action is essential of Reps BOUN COUNTRY A - 6 - A collector'sitem o Plane bite, 25 Leil 1975

## MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY

- Q: You have waived legislative restrictions on aid to Turkey until December 10th; do you think the United States should provide military assistance to Turkey in view of its role in the Cyprus crisis? What steps do you foresee if "substantial progress" toward a settlement has not been achieved by December 10th, the cut-off date specified by the Continuing Resolution?
  - Cur ability to play a positive role in helping to find a solution to the difficult Cyprus problem depends on being able to maintain a constructive relationship with the parties involved. A cut-off of assistance to Turkey would be destructive of that relationship and might, in fact, destroy any hope for the success of initiatives the U.S. has already taken or may take in the future to contribute to a just settlement of the Cyprus problem. Moreover, cutting off aid to Turkey would not affect the situation on the ground in Cyprus, would not help Greece or the Cypriot people, would be contrary to our vital defense interests in the Eastern Mediterranean and destructive of the NATO alliance.

Accordingly, I used the authority granted to me in the Continuing Resolution to waive restrictions on aid to Turkey until December 10th. We are in continuing and close contact with the parties and are hopeful of progress toward a settlement by that date.

A:

Do you have any comment on Senate attempts to attach amendments to the Export-Import Bank bill restricting loans to the Soviet Union and Communist countries?

<u>Guidance:</u> The Administration position is that we hope to get the Ex-Im Bank bill passed unencumbered by unnecessary restrictions.

Specifically, what about these restrictions on loans to Communist countries?

<u>Guidance</u>: We regard as sufficient the Ex-Im Bank policy that loans are based on an evaluation of economic feasibility of the countries and that political circumstances are as a matter of course taken into account in substantial loans to these countries.

Brilis depense cuts ( Dos. . Regret they cut, but indorstand this economic conditions. It is a deision for the Butist to make Placed that Brilis say it will not about NATO.)

Q-Israel chorge re Egyptian Frenches A. No comment



## CYPRUS SITUATION - TURKISH MILITARY ASSISTANCE

Q: Can you tell us what action you intend to take in the face of tomorrow's deadline on military assistance to Turkey? Do you believe enough progress will be made in the Cyprus negotiations to resume military assistance soon?

We deeply regret the action on Congress cutting off military assistance to Turkey. We have expressed to Congress the strong conviction of this Administration that a cut-off of aid to Turkey in the present situation would be counterproductive. It will damage our relationship with a major ally in a strategically important part of the Mediterranean. Moreover, by limiting our ability to work with all parties, it will have the opposite effect to that which was intended, slowing the negotiating process rather than speeding it up.

I believe that the parties involved in Cyprus have agreed to a series of positive and constructive steps that will hopefully lessen tensions on the island and be conducive to further progress in the negotiations. But this is a long and slow process. Considering the complexity of the situation, these first steps represent genuine progress and should be viewed as important indications of resolve and good faith on the part of the negotiators.

In the meantime, we will continue to do everything possible to encourage the two sides to make progress in their negotiations toward a satisfactory settlement while we continue to work with

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Congress to resolve the matter of our relationship with an important NATO ally.

5.

Do you have any comment on Senate action yesterday to postpone for two months a December 10 deadline for cutting of fillSimilitary and to furker

<u>Guidance</u>: We are pleased with the statesmanlike action of the-Senate in extending the December 10 deadline. The Administration's views axe on this particular amendment are well known .

progress can be achieved and to this end Secretary Kissinger will direct his efforts while in Brussels next week.

FYI ONLY: Yesterday Senator Eagleton asked the Senate to confirm previous legislation cutting off military aid to Turkey on December 10 unless President Ford testified that Ankara was obeying foreign assistance legislation and progress was being made toward peace in Cyprus. Senator Humphrey successfully amended the Eagleton proposal by authorizing the President to suspend it until February 14. The Humphrey amendment carried a proviso that it could only be suspended if Turkey observed the Cyprus ceasefire, did not increase its forces on Cyprus or transfer US military supplies there. The House is expected to consider debate next week. In the meantime the December 10 dead line willing into effection Tuesday?

Foreign

Can you confirm that Turkish Minister Esenbel and Secretary Kissingerwill hold talks on the Cyprus situation during the NATO Foreign Ministers Conference in Brussels next week?

Guidance: Yes Secretary Kissinger will be in Brussels from December 10 - 13 for the NATO Foreign Ministers Conference. While in Brussels the Secretary plans to meet with the Foreign Ministers of Greece and Turkey to discuss the Cyprus issue.

## -What progress if any the abeen made to the Cyprose i tuetion

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<u>Guidance</u>: The US has remained in contact with all interested parties. As you know, Secretary Kissinger will be travelling to Brussels for the NATO Ministerial December 10 - 13 and is looking forward to discussions with the Greek andTurkish Foreign Ministers.

3.

8. Can you explain why the Administration is trying to rush to Turkey some \$230 Million worth of tank modernization equipment before the February 5 sutoff?

<u>GUIDANCE:</u> I would refer you to the Department of State for whatever details may be available on our ongoing military supply relationship with our NATO ally. Supply can been no conclusion of State for the Gass been no conclusion of State of State of Tarly FYI ONLY: The amount in question is part of a long standing offer for a cash sale of modernization equipment. The U.S. is conducting business as usual with our Turkish ally, in as much as the Congressionally mandated cutoff will not take effect until February 5.

FYI ONLY: If asked about what the Administration plans to do regarding the February 5 cutoff, you should simply respond that we are in close contact with the parties to the Cyprus dispute and with the appropriate members of Congress on this problem.

### TURKISH MILITARY ASSISTANCE

- Q: Mr. President, the Senate recently passed the Mansfield-Scott Bill which would restore US military assistance to Turkey which was cut-off on February 5. What was Prime Minister Demirel's reaction?
- A: I very much welcomed the favorable Senate action on the Mansfield-Scott Bill. The effect of the Congressional action to terminate military aid to Turkey has been to impede rather than facilitate progress toward a Cyprus settlement -- and it is not in keeping with the mutual interests which the United States and Turkey share as friends and allies. The Turkish Prime Minister and I reviewed this and other aspects of our relations during our meeting in Brussels, and it was a very good, very constructive meeting.

Congressional approval of the Mansfield-Scott legislation passed by the Senate will rectify the current situation and will better enable us to work with both Greece and Turkey. The recent Senate action on this bill is an important first step toward restoring a proper relationship with a longstanding friend and ally.

I am strongly urging the House to pass the Mansfield-Scott Bill. Without such passage I think major progress will be difficult.

## Statement of the White House Press Secretary

The President has noted that the House of Representatives is scheduled to vote today on S. 2230, legislation which would partially lift the arms embargo imposed against Turkey last February 5. The President strongly believes that favorable House action on this measure is critical if vital U.S. and NATO security interests in the Eastern Mediterranean -- interests severely damaged by the embargo -- are to be restored.

Favorable action on this measure will enable the United States to begin rebuilding its security relationship with Turkey, a good friend and an important NATO ally; to renew effective efforts with all the parties involved -- Greece, Turkey and Cyprus -- to realize an early and equitable settlement to the complex Cyprus dispute; to intensify assistance in cooperation with appropriate international agencies to alleviate the suffering of the refugees on Cyprus; and to pursue commune assistance to Greece to help that country overcome its current economic problems.

The President feels that these goals in the Eastern Mediterranean are ones on which all can agree, but that they cannot be achieved without favorable resolution of the Turkish military assistance issue. For this reason, the President believes that House approval of S. 2230 is essential to the safeguarding of most important U.S. and Alliance interests and to the efforts of the United States to help realize greater peace and stability in the Eastern Mediterranean.

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## Turkish Aid

What vital U.S. interests are at stake? (It might be good to re-state this point even if it has been made before)

How will President Ford "continue to make every effort to assist in achieving an equitable settlement of the Cyprus dispute"?

Will President Ford ask Congress to reconsider?

Does President Ford feel that domestic political considerations (the larger Greek than Turkish population in the U<sub>n</sub> ited States) played a role in the house vote?

Has Turkey given any sign, since the vote, that it will oust the U.S. from bases on its territory?

Has there been any other Turkish reaction?

What long-range effects will the vote have on NATO

Did the President see any merit in the argument that, in the words of Rep. Rosenthal, "the issue was whether the rule of law or pragmatism shall prevail"? And would this sentiment in Congress have any effect on U.S. policy (such as supporting right-wing dictators) elsewhere?

### U.S. INCREASE OF ARMS TO TURKEY

Senator Kennedy claims that the US sharply escalated military equipment shipments to Turkey following the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in July. Can you confirm or deny this?

There has been no acceleration of military equipment deliveries to Turkey since July. Deliveries during the period from July through October represented routine shipments of sales and grants made prior to the Cyprus crisis. As a matter of fact, there were no new grants of military equipment for Turkey under the Military Assistance Program or credits or guarantees under the Foreign Military Sales Program during that period.

On October 29, I signed a Determination authorized by the Continuing Resolution to suspend restrictions imposed on aid to Turkey. Since that time, normal processing of grants and sales has taken place.

Q.

A.

FYI: If asked you can confirm that the President has signed a Presidential Determination which suspends the provisions of the Turkish aid cutoff amendment in the continuing resolution until December 10 as the amendment provides, because such a suspension will further negotiations of a peaceful solution of the Cyprus conflict. The Determination was signed yesterday and will be published in the Federal Register.

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5.

And to Turkey

### TURKISH MILITARY ASSISTANCE

- Mr. President, on July 25, in retaliation for the continued Q: cut-off of military assistance, the Turkish government significantly curtailed U.S. activities at joint bases in Turkey. What impact has this had on the security of the Eastern Mediterranean? Can this situation be reversed?
- A: The Turkish government's actions altering the status of the joint defense installations has had a very grave effect on the security interests of both countries, as well as on NATO. The continuation of the ban on arms assistance is a serious impediment to our relations with Turkey, an old and faithful ally. My conversations in Helsinki convinced me that the continued embargo hinders progress on the fundamental questions in a Cyprus settlement. I consider it essential that the arms embargo can be lifted, so that our two nations can restore the balance in our mutually beneficial relations and fundamental security interests. This in turn would increase our ability to work effectively with all the parties involved in achieving a just and equitable settlement of the Cyprus problem. It is in this context that I asked the House to reconsider its earlier decision on resumption of assistance to Turkey.

Has Secretary Kissinger made any progress with the Greek and Turkish Foreign Minister to indicate the ban to cut-off military aid to Turkey should be continued?

> HAS BEEN <u>Guidance</u>: As you know, Secretary Kissinger, is meeting with the Greek and Turkish Foreign Ministers to be revised in CONSTRACT IN SOCK A WAY AS the Conference Committee property to enable Secretary Kissinger to continue his efforts to assist the parties in arriving at an

"Even more important, the United States military assistance to Turkey is not, and has never been, granted as a faor. It has been the view of the United States Government since 1947 that the security of Turkey is vital to the security of the Eastern Mediterranean, to NATO Europe, and therefore to the security of the Atlantic Community."

3.

What is your present estimate of prospects for a Cyprus settlement? I ask this in the context of the Secretary's abortive plans to stop over in Ankara on November 8 and in light of your comments last month concerning Congressional action to cut off aid to Turkey.

We very much regret that the negotiating process has moved along more slowly than we had hoped. We have not forgotten that there are thousands of people in Cyprus displaced from their homes who are living in refugee camps. Early movement on the Cyprus issue is therefore a matter of humanitarian concern as well as a political necessity.

I do not want to spend much time looking backward, in seeking an explanation of why things have not moved more quickly. I continue to believe that a large part of the responsibility rests with the Congressional action last month which sought to cut off aid to Turkey. That action made the Turkish Government, as it would have made any proud people, reluctant to take certain unilateral steps which had been substantially agreed to prior to that action. Added to that delay was the delay caused by the domestic governmental crisis in Turkey.

There is an urgent requirement that the Administration and the Congress work together on the Cyprus issue and other

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foreign policy questions. The Secretary of State and I stand ready to do our utmost to achieve this essential cooperation, but I remain opposed to any legislation which would dictate tactics, procedural negotiating requirements, or otherwise tie the hands of the President. 1. The House and the Senate will conference today on the Continuing Resolution legislation which contains several amendments opposed by the Administration. Will the Administration attempt to compromise on this legislation and what will the President do if the restrictive amendments on Turkey and Chile are in the legislation which reaches his desk?

> <u>Guidance:</u> I think the President made his decision very clear in the statement we released yesterday. As you know, the legislation is still in process and we of course hope the Congress will give careful consideration to the impact to some of the provisions attached to this legislation, but the President's position in this matter is clear and I have nothing to add today.

FYI: In addition to the unacceptable Eagleton Amendment on aid to Turkey, we also believe the Kennedy Amendment to cut off military aid to Chile is unacceptable in that we believe the continued military assistance to Chile is an important contribution to the stability of the area and that a cut off of aid would be harmful to our objectives in the region. End FYI. 9. Will the President veto the continuing resolution legislation passed by the Congress? Does he favor the Mansfield Resolution, which suspends the language of the Continuing Resolution Amendment?"

<u>Guidance</u>: The President has emphasized strongly in two recent statements that the language contained in the Continuing Resolution is unacceptable. However, the Senate has passed a resolution which would suspend a application of the amendment and provide time for our efforts to assist the parties in bringing peace and reconciliation to Cyprus. The President hopes that the House will quickly pass this vital and wise resolution.

FYI: If the Mansfield Resolution does not pass the President will veto the Continuing Resolution.

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FYI: If the Mansfield Resolution does not pass the President will veto the Continuing Resolution.

The Continuing Resolution signed by the President on October 18 provided for an immediate cutoff of military assistance to Turkey but provided for a waiver until December 10th if the President signs a determination that such a suspension would further negotiations regarding Cyprus: Has the President yet signed such a determination to avoid the cutoff of on-going assistance?

4.

<u>Guidance:</u> He has not yet signed that determination but I expect he will do so soon to permit continued military assistance to Turkey under the provisions of the Continuing Resolution.

FYI: You should not get into lengthy discussions on whether the President feels there has been substantial progress toward an agreement on Cyprus etc. For today, you should simply stand on the President's statement of October 18th.