Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 RSC-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10
PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /148 W
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R 161520 Z MAY 73
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO  SECSTATE WASHDC 8011
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

CONFIDENTIAL USUN 1845

E. O. 11652 : GDS
TAGS: PFOR MOPS UN CY
SUBJECT: UNFICYP

REF: ( A) OTTAWA 0770; ( B) LONDON 04017

1. DURING FIVE MONTHS SINCE USUN MET WITH GROUP 1
CONTRIBUTORS AND INDICATED VIEW UNFICYP COULD BE REDUCED
WITHOUT ALTERING MANDATE, WE HAVE CONTINUED TO PRESS THIS
VIEW AS INSTRUCTED BY DEPT. SECRETARIAT AND ALL CONTRIBUTORS
(INCLUDING CYPRUS) ARE FULLY AWARE OF US POSITION. CYPRUS
MISOFF VOLUNTEERED THEY HAVE NO OBJECTION TO REDUCTIONS; NO
OTHER CONTRIBUTOR SHOWS ANY WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT OPENLY
VIEW THAT UNFICYP COULD AND SHOULD BE REDUCED.

2. DESPITE ALL EFFORTS, ACCORDING TO SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL
SHERRY, SYG’S REPORT (TO BE CIRCULATED 4 JUNE), WILL
APPEARENTLY RECOMMEND ONLY MINOR ECONOMY MEASURES (E. G.,
CLOSING FIELD HOSPITAL). WHILE CONCERNED ABOUT FINANCING
6&’S CONCENTRATION APPEARS TO BE ON CYPRUS POLITICAL
SITUATION AND UNFICYP ROLE AS PK OPERATION. SECRETARIAT
CONFIDENTIAL

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PERSONNEL HAVE TOLD US THAT UP TO FEW MONTHS AGO THEY HAD
HOPES INTER- COMMUNAL TALKS WOULD HAVE PROGRESSED FAR ENOUGH
TO ALLOW SYG TO RECOMMEND TO SC IN JUNE THAT FORCE COULD BE
REDUCED. THIS IS NOT CASE AS THEY SEE IT NOW, ACCORDING TO
SHERRY. APART FROM ECONOMY MEASURES REFERRED TO, APPARENTLY NO OTHER INITIATIVES WILL BE RECOMMENDED OTHER THAN RENEWED PLEAS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT, PARTICULARLY FROM CYPRUS AND TURKEY. (NICOSIA’S 113, SUGGEST GREATER MOVEMENT THEN IS APPARENT HERE IN NY.)

3. CANADA AND UK MISSIONS REPEATEDLY CITE LACK OF INSTRUCTIONS ON SUPPORTING US IN APPROACHING SYG TO INITIATE STUDY LOOKING TOWARDS REDUCTION. IMPRESSION WE ARE GETTING FROM STAFF LEVEL IS RELUCTANCE TO BE OUT IN FRONT BUT UNOFFICIAL AGREEMENT THAT “SOMETHING” SHOULD BE DONE. COMPLEX REASONS FOR THIS ARE BEST DESCRIBED IN MIXED VIEWS EXPRESSED IN CAPITALS (REFTELS A AND B). CANADIANS HAVE INDICATED APPREHENSION THAT CUTS IN UNFICYP MIGHT AFFECT WILLINGNESS OF SOME TROOP CONTRIBUTORS TO STAY IN GAME AT ALL. IN INFORMAL GENERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH SWEDISH AND AUSTRIAN MISOFFS IMPRESSION GIVEN IS LACK OF CONCERN OTHER THAN WHAT US WILL PROPOSE NEXT AS FOLLOW-UP TO LAST DECEMBER’S MEETING OF CONTRIBUTORS.

4. IN SHORT, WE SEE INTERESTED PARTIES HERE WAITING FOR OTHER US SHOE TO DROP. THEY SEE US AS MAJOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTOR WITH INSIDE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CONSEQUENCES OF OUR ACTIONS AND, ASSUMING NO SERIOUS DRAWBACKS ARE OBVIOUS, THEY MAY NOT SERIOUSLY OPPOSE ANY REASONABLE PLAN TO REDUCE FORCE. THEREFORE, UNLESS SYG ADDRESSES SUBJECT OF REDUCTIONS IN HIS REPORT, USUN RECOMMENDS THAT, FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH GROUP 1 CONTRIBUTORS, US DELEGATE AT JUNE SC MEETING:
   A) EMPHASIZE DEFICIT, STRESS THAT APPEALS BY SYG FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL, AND REVIEW NON-YEAR HISTORY OF FORCE;
   B) EXPRESS VIEW THAT LANGUAGE OF MANDATE EMPOWERS SYG, TO DETERMINE SIZE OF FORCE; AND
   C) ASACCESS SITUATION IN CYPRUS EXPRESSING US VIEW THAT TIME HAS COME TO ADJUST FORCE TO OBSERVER STATUS AND URGE SYG TO CONSIDER THIS VIEW AND ADVISE SC AS TO ITS FEASIBILITY BY DEC 1973. WE MIGHT ADD THAT OUR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFICYP IN 1974 WILL BE PROPORTIONATE TO OUR EVALUATION CONFIDENTIAL.
Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date: 
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973USUNN01845
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: USUN NY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730559/abqceaehtel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ( A) OTTAWA 0770; ( B) LONDON 04017
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <09-Nov-2001 by morefirh>; APPROVED <09-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNFICYP
TAGS: PFORE MOPS UN CY
To: STATE INFO ANKARA
ATHENS
OTTAWA
NICOSIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005