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TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY FCO.,

TELNO 704 OF 29 NOVEMBER 1983.,

REPEATED AS IMMEDIATE INFO TO NEW DELHI (FOR CHOGM DELEGATION),
UKREP BRUSSELS (FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY), NICOSIA, ANKARA,
WASHINGTON,

REPEATED AS PRIORITY INFO TO UKMIS NEW YORK, CSFC, UKDEL, NATO
UKDEL STRASBOURG AND ISTANBUL.9

MY TELEGRAM NO. 700: CYPRUS:

GUARANTOR POWER CONSULTATIONS

1. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN WAS ASKED YESTERDAY WHETHER THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAD FINALLY ACCEPTED TRIPARTITE DISCUSSIONS UNDER THE TREATY OF GUARANTEE. HE SAID 'WE ARE WAITING SEE WHAT KYPRIANOU SAYS'.

2. THERE ARE ALSO PRESS REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT KARAMANLIS WILL CHAIR A MEETING JHTENDED BY PAPANDEOU AND KYPRIANOU. ASKED WHETHER THAT MEETING WOULD DECIDE WHETHER THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WOULD ACCEPT TRIPARTITE CONSULTATIONS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WOULD DECIDE. THEY SIMPLY WANTED TO BE INFORMED OF THE VIEWS OF KYPRIANOU. IN ANSWER TO FURTHER QUESTIONS HE MAINTAINED THAT PAPANDEOU'S STATEMENTS OF 26 NOVEMBER WERE STILL VALID BUT THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WISHED TO KNOW THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS.

3. THE SPOKESMAN WAS ALSO ASKED ABOUT WHAT ARE DESCRIBED AS MRS THATCHER'S 'PROPOSALS'. HE REPLIED THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT KNEW THAT SOMETHING WAS CIRCULATING BETWEEN AMBASSADORS BUT HAD RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

4. IT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE PROJECTED MEETING BETWEEN CYPRIOT POLITICAL LEADERS AND PAPANDEOU HAS BEEN POSTPONED GO FOLLOWING DISCUSSION BETWEEN PAPANDEOU AND KYPRIANOU.

COMMENT (UNDERLINED)

5. ALL THIS BEARS OUT MY VIEW THAT WE SHALL GET NO CLEAR ANSWER BEFORE KYPRIANOU'S VISIT TO ATHENS. IF KARAMANLIS DOES PRESIDE OVER A MEETING ATTENDED BY KYPRIANOU AND PAPANDEOU, IT WILL BE HIS FIRST DIRECT INTERVENTION IN POLITICAL AFFAIRS SINCE HIS ELECTION. NO DOUBT HE WOULD JUSTIFY THIS BY THE IMPORTANCE OF WHAT THE GREEKS SEE AS AN ASPECT OF THEIR 'NATIONAL ISSUE', I.E. AN ASPECT OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND SURVIVAL OF 'HELLENISM'.

R H O D E S

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