

A REPORT ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION COVERING
FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1999

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

THE PRESIDENT'S BIMONTHLY REPORT ON PROGRESS TOWARD A
NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION, COV-
ERING THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1999 AND MARCH 1999, PURSU-
ANT TO 22 U.S.C. 2373(c)



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THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, August 19, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: In accordance with Public Law 95-384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I submit to you this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question covering the period April 1, 1999, to May 31, 1999. The previous submission covered events during February 1999 and March 1999.

NATO's 50th Anniversary Summit in Washington this past April brought an opportunity to engage with Greek and Turkish leaders on the Cyprus problem. I met there with Turkish President Demirel and Greek Prime Minister Simitis to underscore the importance of a just and lasting solution for all Cypriots. Secretary of State Madeline K. Albright delivered a similar message to her Greek and Turkish counterparts in discussions on the possibilities for resuming negotiations in the fall. My Administration will continue efforts to bring about a settlement based on a bizonal, bicomunal federation.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

PRESIDENT'S BIMONTHLY REPORT ON CYPRUS

APRIL–MAY 1999

In a series of meetings with both sides in April, UN Deputy Special Representative for Cyprus Ann Hercus continued UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's September 30, 1998, initiative to reduce tensions and promote a just and lasting settlement. President Clinton met separately with Turkish President Demirel and Greek Prime Minister Simitis during the April 23–25 NATO Summit to discuss ways of restarting negotiations on Cyprus. The President encouraged President Demirel and Prime Minister Simitis to be flexible and urged them to work toward a settlement based on a bizonal, bicomunal federation.

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright met separately with Greek Foreign Minister Papandreou on April 22 and Turkish Foreign Minister Cem on April 25 in Washington on the margins of NATO's 50th Anniversary Summit. The Secretary and her counterparts discussed a wide range of issues, including the situation in Cyprus.

Also on April 22, U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Kenneth Brill held separate meetings first with Cypriot Foreign Minister Kasoulides and then with President Clerides to discuss the prospects for a Cyprus settlement. Ambassador Brill told Mr. Clerides that the United States is committed to doing all it can to move the Cyprus issue towards negotiations in coming months.

On April 26, Ambassador Thomas Miller (who had participated in Secretary Albright's earlier meetings with her Turkish and Greek counterparts) met with Turkish Deputy Under Secretary Logoglu in Washington on the margins of the NATO Summit. They discussed ways to advance the settlement process.

On May 4, Ambassador Brill met with Turkish Cypriot leader Denktash to discuss prospects for comprehensive negotiations. The Ambassador urged the Turkish Cypriots to come to the negotiating table without preconditions. He also underscored the U.S. commitment to a Cyprus settlement based on a bizonal, bicomunal federation.

Ambassador Brill met on May 14 with Mr. Kasoulides on the Cyprus situation.

Alternate U.S. Representative to the United Nations for Special Political Affairs Nancy Soderberg traveled to Cyprus May 19–20. Ambassador Soderberg, accompanied by Ambassador Brill, met separately with President Clerides and Mr. Denktash on May 19.

On May 26 Secretary Albright met with Greek Foreign Minister Papandreou in Washington on a wide range of bilateral issues, including Cyprus.

