

A REPORT COVERING THE CYPRUS QUESTION
PROGRESS FROM JUNE 1, 1999 TO JULY 31, 1999

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

PROGRESS TOWARD A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS
QUESTION COVERING THE PERIOD JUNE 1 TO JULY 31, 1999,
PURSUANT TO 22 U.S.C. 2373(c)



SEPTEMBER 13, 1999.—Referred to the Committee on International
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THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, September 10, 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 June 1, 1999, to July 31, 1999. The previous submission covered events during April and May 1999.

Cyprus was one of the many issues raised at the G-8 Summit in Cologne, Germany, this past June. My colleagues agreed that a resolution to the dispute is long overdue and issued a statement urging U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to "invite the leaders of the two parties to negotiations in the fall of 1999." This is a positive step toward addressing the legitimate concerns of both sides and reaching a just and lasting solution for all Cypriots.

In July, Secretary of Defense William Cohen traveled to Greece and Turkey to enhance our bilateral relations and underscore the important role Greece and Turkey play in maintaining stability in the southern European region. Secretary Cohen also emphasized the U.S. commitment to reaching a Cyprus solution.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

PRESIDENT'S BIMONTHLY REPORT ON CYPRUS

JUNE–JULY 1999

U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Kenneth Brill met on June 1 with Cypriot Foreign Minister Yannis Kasoulides to discuss next steps on Cyprus.

On June 9, Donald K. Bandler appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee regarding his nomination as the next U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus.

On June 20, the G–8 leaders while meeting in Cologne, Germany, issued a statement on Cyprus that called upon the UN Secretary-General “to invite the leaders of the two parties to negotiations in the fall of 1999.” To that end, the G–8 leaders also urged “the two leaders to give their full support to such a comprehensive negotiation, under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General.”

On June 22, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan issued a report on the UN “Mission of Good Offices in Cyprus.” The report reviewed UN activities over the past 6 months, including the meetings his Special Representative for Cyprus, Dame Ann Hercus, held with the leaders of both sides. The report also indicated that the Secretary-General was ready to invite both leaders to “enter into a process of comprehensive negotiations without preconditions and in a spirit of compromise and cooperation.” A copy of the report is attached.

On June 29, the UN Security Council adopted two resolutions on Cyprus. Resolution 1250 endorsed the June 20 G–8 Summit statement requesting the Secretary-General “to invite the leaders of the two sides to negotiations in the autumn of 1999.” Resolution 1251 renewed the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for another six-month period ending on December 15, 1999. Copies of both resolutions are attached.

Also on June 29, Ambassador Brill met with Turkish-Cypriot Leader Rauf Denktash to discuss the prospects for comprehensive negotiations in the fall. The Ambassador underscored the U.S. commitment to finding a just and lasting solution that addresses the legitimate needs of both sides.

On July 1, the Senate confirmed Donald K. Bandler as the next U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus.

On July 9, Ambassador Brill met with Mr. Kasoulides to follow up on the G–8 statement calling for negotiations in the fall. The Ambassador emphasized the need for all parties to work toward a just and lasting settlement.

Secretary of Defense William Cohen visited Greece and Turkey from July 14–15. In Athens on July 14, Secretary Cohen, accompanied by Ambassador Nicholas Burns, met with Prime Minister Simitis and Defense Minister Tsohatzopoulos. He traveled to An-

kara on July 15 and, accompanied by Ambassador Mark Parris, met with Prime Minister Ecevit, Defense Minister Cakmakoglu, and Deputy Chief of the Turkish General Staff, General Ozkok. In both capitals, Secretary Cohen underscored the need for a peaceful resolution to the Cyprus problem, expressed support for comprehensive negotiations, and urged both the Greeks and Turks, as well as the Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots to take positive steps toward that goal.

In a final call as U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus, Ambassador Brill met with President Clerides on July 20. He emphasized the U.S. determination to continue efforts to facilitate comprehensive negotiations in the fall of 1999.

On July 21, Ambassador Brill made his final call on Mr. Denktash. He urged the Turkish side to be flexible on the Cyprus issue and engage in negotiations in the fall. The Ambassador emphasized that the goal of negotiations is a just and lasting solution that addresses the needs of both sides.

Donald K. Bandler was sworn in as the next U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus on July 21; Deputy Secretary Talbott presided over the ceremony. In his statement, Ambassador Bandler noted, "(t)he goal (in Cyprus) is clear: to find a fair and durable settlement that ends the political division of the island."

Special Coordinator for Cyprus Thomas J. Miller traveled to London and Athens for consultations on Cyprus. In London on July 21, Ambassador Miller met with U.K. Special Representative for Cyprus Sir David Hannay. On July 26, Ambassador Miller, accompanied by Charge d'Affairs Terry Snell and State Department Office of Southern European Affairs Director Morton Dworken, met with Alternate Foreign Minister Kranidiotis in Athens.

Ambassador Brill departed the U.S. Embassy in Nicosia on July 23, 1999.

On July 28, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan "regretfully" announced the resignation of his Special Representative for Cyprus, Ann Hercus, for personal reasons. Special Representative Hercus will remain at her post until the end of September.