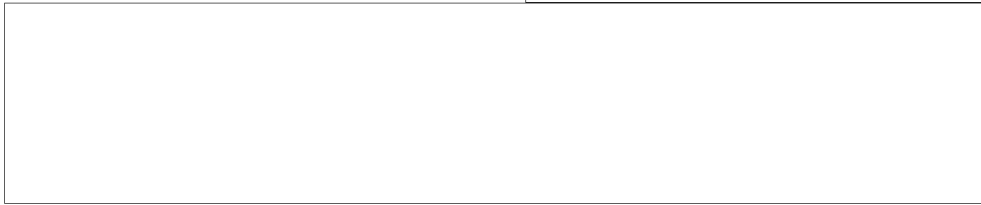


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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
August 19, 1974

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

CYPRUS

Situation Report Number 15.
(As of 1700 EDT)

(All times cited are Nicosia time, unless otherwise specified.)

STATUS OF THE US EMBASSY IN NICOSIA

1. [redacted] as of noon (EDT) the situation at the embassy is under control. Crowds are no longer evident anywhere in town since President Clerides banned public meetings.

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2. [redacted] remains skeptical, however, over the willingness of the Greek National Guard and Cypriot police to take effective measures to stop any new demonstrations. This skepticism is based on the fact that they did not stop the first demonstration and on indications that the first attack was clearly designed to kill Ambassador Davies. The majority of the gunfire during the first attack was directed at the ambassador's office and residence.

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3. [redacted] the demonstrators may have other targets. The police have identified some of the demonstrators as members of EOKA-B, a right-wing terrorist group that favors union with Greece.

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4. The embassy's staff is considering evacuation to an old American compound in the city where they would regroup for a UN escorted convoy to one of the British bases.

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5. Ambassador L. Dean Brown, a former ambassador to Jordan, is flying to Cyprus to take charge of the embassy.

MILITARY SHAKEUP IN GREECE

6. In a move apparently designed to further consolidate its position, the Karamanlis government today reshuffled the armed forces high command, which had been associated with the previous military regime and its Cyprus policy. Armed forces chief General Gregorios Bonanos and army chief General Andreas Galatsanos were sacked as were several other senior military officials. According to the US embassy in Athens, Greek Defense Minister Averoff has reportedly named retired General Dionysios Arbouzis, who commanded the Greek army contingent in Korea, as the new armed forces chief. Averoff also stated that Lt. General Davos, who commanded the third army corps and reportedly played an instrumental role in the return to civilian rule, is also moving up, presumably to become army chief. A press report, however, states that Davos has been named as armed forces chief. Averoff indicated that the navy and air force leadership, which had not been as closely associated with the previous military regimes, would not be affected by the changes. He also mentioned that former strongman General Ioannides would not be affected.

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PEACE TALK PROSPECTS

7. The Turkish deputy chief of mission (DCM) in Nicosia informed the US embassy today that Turkey still hopes to get Greece back to the conference table in Geneva, but the Turkish official admitted that such a development is unlikely. In response to a question concerning Ankara's attitude if Greece refuses to negotiate, the DCM speculated that the Turkish Army would remain in place on Cyprus with Turkish authorities running their portion of the island "as if it were another province of Turkey." The Turkish DCM also admitted that it would be difficult to get the Turkish Army to withdraw from any territory prior to a political settlement. He also thinks that it is highly unlikely that Ankara would consider reverting to the multi-canton proposal earlier floated at Geneva. In general, he was pessimistic over the prospects for a political settlement any time in the near future.

8. The Turkish embassy official also stated that Cypriot Vice President Denktash will return to the island today to seek an early meeting with President Clerides to work out details on running Cyprus. Turkey will permit Denktash to discuss only immediate issues such as handling prisoner exchanges and refugees, but he will not be permitted to address broader political questions.

9. According to the French news service, Cypriot President Clerides said today that he would not negotiate over Cyprus under any kind of ultimatum. Clerides, speaking at a press conference held prior to the attack on the US embassy, said that the current situation created by the Turkish military moves could not be accepted as the basis for negotiations. Clerides also said that negotiations could take place in a "propitious" atmosphere if such problems as the return of refugees and displaced persons could be solved. He also accused Turkish forces of "atrocities" in occupied regions, but balanced this statement by praising the commander of Turkish forces in Famagusta

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and by condemning the attack of Greek Cypriot irregulars against a Turkish Cypriot village.

GREEK-SOVIET TIES

10. The US embassy in Athens reported today that Greek ministry of foreign affairs sources on August 17 denied reports that negotiations are under way in Moscow on a military agreement between Greece and the USSR. The ministry sources stated that such reports "do not correspond to reality." The denial was prompted by a front-page story in a prominent Athens newspaper. It quoted a high-ranking official of the Soviet embassy in Athens as stating that inquiries on the matter should be addressed to the Greek embassy in Moscow.

11. Reports of Soviet-Greek military cooperation have surfaced several times during the Cyprus crisis but have never been confirmed. It is possible that the Greek government may be floating such reports in order to put additional pressure on Turkey and the US. Elements of the Greek left could also be responsible for floating the story to win support for improved Soviet-Greek relations.

STATUS OF UN FORCES

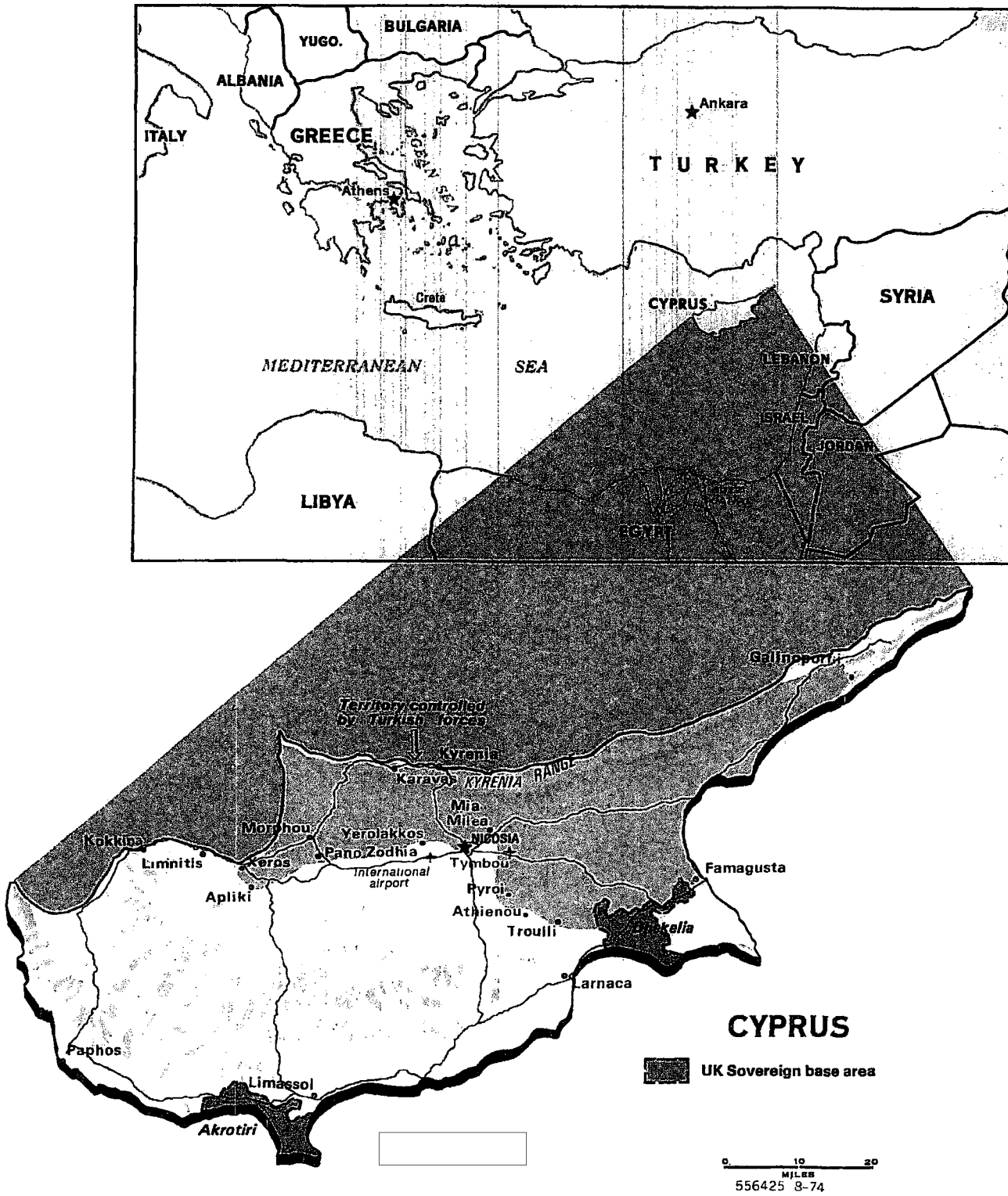
12. Concern about the continuing military action on Cyprus and the threat it poses to the safety of the UN peacekeeping forces there may cause another reconsideration by the Security Council of the force's operating mandate. The UN troops have been consistently hampered from fulfilling even their minimum humanitarian responsibilities not only by Turkish refusal to allow them access to Turkish-held areas, but also by the indecisiveness and timidity of top UN officials in New York, most notably Secretary General Waldheim.

13. A resolution sponsored by Austria, among other countries, and passed by the Council last Thursday highlighted the membership's concern for the safety of UN

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troops, particularly in light of the napalming by Turkish aircraft of a clearly marked UN vehicle, an action which claimed the lives of 3 Austrian soldiers. The Canadians have now reiterated their intention to press for another review of UNFICYP's mandate. They are questioning whether such a review would allow any kind of role for a peacekeeping force if the present partition of the island remains in effect.

14. The Soviets would undoubtedly welcome reconsideration of this contentious issue and might possibly hope to use the occasion to gain the inclusion of some of their own allies on the force. The Turks, who have argued throughout the conflict that UNFICYP is not playing an unbiased role and has, in fact, abandoned the Turkish Cypriots to the Greek forces, would also likely insist on inclusion in the force of contingents from Moslem countries. The Turkish foreign ministry has already been soliciting troop contributions from some of its Moslem allies.

TURKEY EASES MARTIAL LAW

15. The Turkish Council of Ministers today lifted martial law in four provinces, all of which are in the western and southern parts of the country.

MILITARY SITUATION

16. Turkish units have not advanced today. A press report from Cyprus indicates that the Turks have reinforced their line southwest of Tymbou airfield, but have not attempted to move westward toward the Nicosia-Limassol road or south toward Larnaca.

MAINLAND MILITARY ACTIVITIES

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[Redacted]

[Redacted] US Navy officials at Souda Bay in Crete report sighting five commercial ferries with troops and tanks in Souda Bay on the evening of August 18.

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