

CIA OCI SN MEASA 740315

SC # 05333/74

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STAFF NOTES:

Middle East
Africa
South Asia



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SC No. 05333/74
March 15, 1974

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

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Cyprus*Greek Tie to Enosis Group Continues*

Athens, [REDACTED] has replaced its main "contact" in EOKA-B, the late General George Grivas' pro-enosis guerrilla organization that has waged a terrorist campaign against the government of President Makarios since early 1972. Greek Army Colonel Dertilis reportedly has arrived on the island to take up this role from Major Georgios Karousos, a former Grivas lieutenant who ran afoul of Greek Cypriots in the group. Karousos, a retired Greek Army officer, has been evacuated to Greece with the connivance of the Greek Government and apparently under the watchful eye of Cypriot intelligence.

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Cypriot officials fear that the arrival of Dertilis, who apparently is close to the leadership in Athens and also to other Greek mainland officers still included in the EOKA-B leadership, portends a Greek attempt to wrest control of the movement from Cypriot elements. The Cypriots themselves are split over tactics. One group would resume the anti-Makarios terrorism, which has been shelved since Grivas' death in January. The other group would pursue their elusive goal of uniting Cyprus with Greece by more conventional political means.

Makarios has been briefed on the details of the transfer of the two mainlanders and the possible implications of new Greek interference in Cypriot affairs, but reportedly retains some hope that Athens intends its new man to exert a moderating influence. He is, nonetheless, wary of the Ioannidis regime and extremely suspicious of its intentions toward Cyprus.

Some reporting has indicated that Ioannidis has not developed a Cyprus policy; still other reports say that he and his military colleagues will

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take a hard line toward settling the intercommunal problem. The talks aimed at ending the decades-old argument over rights for the minority Turkish Cypriots have floundered, however, and Athens may have to take a stand on the issue sooner rather than later. [redacted]

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