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PLATE DU MARÉCHAL DE LATTRE DE TASSIGNY - PARIS (COP) - TÉL. NLE 50-20

BUREAU DU REPRÉSENTANT
 DU GROUPE PERMANENT

OFFICE OF THE STANDING GROUP
 REPRESENTATIVE

LOM 46/64

31 January 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR : Secretary, Standing Group (For Principals Only)

SUBJECT : Peace-keeping Forces in Cyprus

Reference : LOSTAN 5481 — *regular file*

1. The North Atlantic Council convened on 31 January at the request of the UK and US Permanent Representatives.

2. A joint proposal by the British and US governments (Enclosure) was circulated. Before reading the proposal, the UK Representative explained to the Council that the proposal was now being discussed in London between the Foreign Ministers of the UK, Greece and Turkey and the US Ambassador in order to produce a document agreed by all four nations. He emphasized the importance of paragraph B.1. of the proposal, stating that the force should not be under NATO control.

3. After reading the proposal, the members made some remarks, or raised questions, as follows:

a. The US Representative said that if the proposal becomes effective, it is the hope of the US that many NATO nations will contribute to the force.

b. The Secretary General said that since discussions are now taking place in London and since much depends on the outcome of these talks, it is difficult for the Council to discuss the matter immediately, but that any questions or comments will be welcome.

c. The Danish Representative said that he could express no official opinion and went on to ask, with reference to paragraph B.4. of the proposal, how much of the force would be left for other national contributions once the US, UK, Greek and Turkish components were fully manned.

d. The UK Representative said there was no possible answer to the question at present.

e. The Canadian Representative asked whether invitations to contribute would be forthcoming or whether the proposal was to be considered as a request for volunteers.

f. The UK Representative replied that the proposal was certainly not a request for volunteers, but that requests to capitals of NATO nations would be presented in time, depending on the outcome of discussions in London. He further added that the communication of the proposal was to be considered as strictly confidential information for the Council.

g. The Turkish Representative said that he had refrained from expressing any official views, since this would be unwise while discussions were being held at ministerial level. However, he felt compelled to express

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his personal fears that this special meeting of the Council might have dangerous consequences. The matter could probably not be prevented from reaching the press and public opinion would be bound to feel that NATO was intervening in Cyprus affairs. This in turn could give the Soviets an excellent argument to bring the United Nations into the arena.

h. The Greek Representative said that he too had refrained from expressing views since this would not help the discussions in London. He stated that his government accepted the proposal and ended by saying that no information should be given to the press regarding this meeting.

i. The Secretary General expressed his appreciation of the wisdom shown by the Permanent Representatives and suggested that the Council might reconvene when the outcome of the London discussions would be known. He asked the members to understand that, while information had been given to them, this was not the time for discussion. He added that the press should not be informed of this meeting.

j. The Turkish Representative asked whether some common attitude could be defined in case members would be approached by journalists inquiring regarding the matter.

k. The Secretary General said that absolute silence and a "no comment" attitude should be the rule. If in doubt, the parties seeking information should be referred to himself or to the Deputy Secretary General. In any case, the presentation of the proposal was only information to the Council and was not to be taken as a "suggestion".

l. The Portuguese Representative thanked the UK Representative for his presentation and added that he saw little danger in the proposal becoming public knowledge, since practically all the papers had already commented on the British hopes of some form of NATO participation in the settlement of the Cyprus problem.

m. The Turkish Representative then said that these were not his fears, but rather that it might be said that NATO was organizing an intervention in Cyprus.

4. The Secretary General then called the meeting to an end.



H. A. TWITCHELL
Brigadier General
STANDING GROUP REPRESENTATIVE

Enclosure : "Peace-keeping force in Cyprus - Joint
Proposal by the British and United
States Governments"

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Peace-keeping force in Cyprus Joint Proposal by the British and United States Governments

A. Outline of proposal

1. A peace-keeping force shall be established in Cyprus, drawn from NATO countries. Such a force shall remain in Cyprus for the shortest possible period necessary to accomplish this mission. The countries concerned will commit themselves to retain in Cyprus the forces which they contribute for a period of not more than three months.

2. The Governments of Greece, Turkey, Britain and the United States will support the establishment of the force.

3. The Governments of Greece and Turkey undertake not to exercise their rights of unilateral intervention under Article 4 of the Treaty of Guarantee for three months on the understanding that the peace-keeping force will be in place during this period.

4. The Governments of Greece and Turkey undertake to use their utmost efforts to restrain the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities on Cyprus.

5. The three guarantor powers and the United States shall seek from Archbishop Makarios and Dr. Kutchuk:

- (a) Agreement to the establishment of the force;
- (b) Assurances that they will do their utmost to restrain their respective communities on Cyprus.

6. The parties concerned agree to accept mediation of their differences in a spirit of mutual accommodation.

7. A mediator shall be chosen by agreement among the guarantor powers, and with the consent of Archbishop Makarios and Dr. Kutchuk, from a NATO country other than the United States or one of the three guarantor powers.

B. Understanding with respect to the peace-keeping force

1. The force will be drawn from NATO countries but its establishment and operation will not be under NATO control.

2. The force will augment British forces engaged in keeping law and order on the Island in accordance with the proposal of the guarantor powers accepted by Archbishop Makarios and Dr. Kutchuk on December 26, 1963. It will operate under British command.

3. The Commander of the force will receive political guidance from a committee of Ambassadors of the participating nations sitting in London.

4. The total force must be adequate to the mission for which it is conceived and not less than 10,000 men.

5. The Greek and Turkish contingents now on the Island shall be part of the peace-keeping force. Neither contingent shall be augmented.

6. Participation in the peace-keeping force shall be sought from as many other NATO countries as possible.

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