

MEMORANDUM  
EVENING NAC MEETING  
JULY 16, 1974

There was an evening meeting of the NAC on July 16.

I had no instructions. De Staercke had made an emotional outburst against the Greeks. The meeting was generally unsatisfactory. It was clear that some pressure needed to be brought on the Greeks if we were to hope that we could either (a) deter the Turks from invading, or (b) if they were to invade, invade with only limited goals in mind, namely, to regress the balance. Further, the US was being criticized in the corridors, and to some extent in the press, as being pro-Greek and there were wilder charges that the CIA and the US might have even encouraged the Greek regime to throw out Makarios and put in Sampson.

Lacking instructions, I used an approach roughly as follows, as best I can reconstruct from my notes that I drafted sitting at the table. The issue turned on what role the Greek officers had in the overthrow of Makarios. These are 650 (roughly) Greek officers who were in Cyprus at the request of the Cypriot Government and in parallel with Turkish officers who were in Cyprus, the Greek officers' purpose being to help train the Greek Cypriot National Guard.



My remarks were essentially as follows:

I first want to thank the Secretary-General for calling this meeting and for the continuing role he is playing both as Chairman of the Council and in connection with his watching brief.

I said I appreciated the information provided by others, and that I spoke in the earlier NAC meeting today and stated the US position and indicated that a statement in Washington was being circulated to them further setting forth the US views and I will not repeat them this evening.

I said I had listened to the Dean and the Secretary-General cite the responsibilities on the part of each member of the Alliance to consult under Article I ~~of~~ the North Atlantic Treaty to say nothing of the recently signed Ottawa Declaration, *and I agreed.*

I said that personally I was somewhat disappointed that this many hours after the outbreak of the conflict so little information had been supplied and that so many ambiguities remained and I agree with the Dean that unambiguous statements by Greece and Turkey as to their purposes and intentions are ~~highly~~ desirable.

I said that the Greek Ambassador had <sup>been</sup> discussing earlier the circumstances of the some 650 Greek officers in Cyprus



whose role had been to help train the Cypriot National Guard, and I said that without making any suggestions or insinuations, or allegations, I would like to clarify for myself some of the earlier discussions.

I said that the Greek Ambassador had quoted his Minister as describing the situation as an internal matter. I asked, if it was an internal matter, who was it an internal matter between. There are so many groups and factions involved that it is not perfectly clear to me what he means by that phrase.

I said I also would like to propound some additional questions, again for my own clarification. I don't recall specifically the questions I posed, but they were something along this line: Is it correct that the Greek officers on Cyprus serving with the Cypriot National Guard are officers of the Greek armed forces? on active duty? Another question was: And if these officers are officers of the Greek armed forces on duty with the Cypriot National Guard, under whose authority do they act and under whose authority are they acting today in the present crisis in Cyprus? Another question was: If these 650 officers, or some portion thereof, did in fact involve themselves in the overthrow in Cyprus and if they were not acting under authority of the Greek Government or the Greek armed forces, but apparently under some other authority, I am curious to know if any steps are being taken to discipline



their action since, as you say, they are still members of the Greek armed forces.

During the course of my questions, and there were a total of four or five or six, Luns and other kept interrupting ~~me~~ and the Greek kept trying to answer, and it was strung out over quite a period of time.

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