

CYPRUS BULLETIN

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MACHINATIONS DESIGNED TO DESTROY ANY DISCUSSION

Signs are emerging from the magnificent smoke screens being built by the Turkish Military Commanders, that they do not want contact between the two Cypriot communities at any level. In fact they seem to be working to a definite plan.

At the beginning of the last ceasefire, they were maintaining that the quicker everybody got together round a table and agreed on a totally false agreement, the better. Slowly, as international opinions hardened against them and as the world began to realise what they had done, these attitudes began to change. Suddenly there was to be no "frank and open" discussions throughout the world, nor even in the United Nations. Suddenly, people who had been representing Cyprus in the international arenas became unacceptable to them, and positions constitutionally theirs but for years ignored, became important legal counters in a political game. Criticism of their flagrant barbaric acts became too much for even them and the truth became so painful that couldn't bear the thought of having to reason them out in a civilised manner.

Nor indeed could they accept the obvious need for a real humanitarian effort to overcome the desperate flight of the refugees, be they Greek Cypriot or Turkish Cypriot. To the astonishment of world leaders they announced that they would not accept the Security Council's resolution to allow the refugees to return to their own homes. Once again the most flimsy of excuses were given. One moment they explained how they'd crush any guerrilla acts, by either taking violent retaliatory reprisals or by occupying the whole island, which meant taking over the refugees as well, and then suddenly they explained that they couldn't take the refugees back because they would become guerrillas. Even the unhappy incidents like Maratha have received the full publicity treatment, not to accord any dignity, but to destroy meetings between the communities at

the highest levels. Mr. Denktash must try and stand up to the Turkish military if there is to be any chance of Cyprus developing again as a single economic fact. And bear in mind, Mr. Ecevit is not going to keep his troops on the island for ever, nor will his badly shattered budget be able to support the Turkish Cypriots after the

National budget has been so drastically cut.

It will be with interest that the world will watch to see what the Turks manage to produce immediately before the next round of talks. Come Mr. Denktash, don't be bullied, insist on keeping your promises, and let the innocent refugees return to their homes.

Gone too are the moufflon



Like the cedars the Cyprus moufflon was one of the natural treasures of the island. The moufflon belongs to the sheep family but the Cyprus species is unique to the world and has long been in danger of extinction. Years of care and special protection had helped to restore the moufflon's decimated numbers but now the Turkish Air Force has achieved at one fell swoop what years of indiscriminate hunting had failed to

do. Before the Turkish invasion there were estimated to be approximately 600 moufflon in the Troodos Range—there are now no more than a hundred and their survival is more precarious than ever before. This interesting and noble beast, symbol of the Cyprus Republic and used on its coins, has suffered a horrible and meaningless death, a literal hecatomb.