

# CYPRUS BULLETIN

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## MIGHT IS RIGHT

No one would deny that the meetings between Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktash are a ray of hope in the darkness and chaos that the Turkish invasion has brought upon Cyprus. The two sides are at least talking and even Mr. Denktash has had the "magnanimity" to admit that Mr. Clerides is "an acceptable man to talk to". But the Turks seem determined to give with one hand and take away with the other. There is surely something fundamentally dishonest about discussing humanitarian problems while at the same time preparing to create others. For this is what in essence Turkish demands for the transfer of 10,000 Turkish Cypriot refugees from the British bases in southern Cyprus to Turkey mean. It is obvious to anyone that these Turkish Cypriots would at once be shipped back to Turkish-held Northern Cyprus where they would provide a solution to Mr. Denktash's population problem, taking over the houses and property that the Turkish army has appropriated from Greek Cypriots. As Mr. Clerides has pointed out, such a step would badly upset the composition of population in Cyprus and, taken with the demand

for the transfer of all Turks living in Greek areas, is designed to make partition a fact both in geographical and in demographic terms. The Turks make much of their concern for the security of Turkish Cypriots held by Greeks or living in what remains of the Republic of Cyprus. The Government of Cyprus has no reason to feel confident that Greek Cypriots held or trapped in the Turkish-occupied areas are not exposed to danger. Turkish treatment of civilian population hardly requires comment: if we had not already had appalling evidence of their behaviour here in Cyprus, the arbitrary expulsion of innocent Greeks from Turkey would be quite enough to demonstrate their respect for human rights. And yet no demand has been made by the Greek side for a transfer of population precisely because it is our desire to preserve the Republic of Cyprus from the dismemberment it faces.

But what are we to make of a policy which with a complete disregard for all human feelings (are we to believe that Turkish Cypriots do not care about being uprooted from their tradi-

tional homes) tramples on every known legal and moral code? We need no further proof that the Turks have no real intention of allowing Greek refugees to return to their homes (Mr. Denktash has in fact stated as much) and that the "Cyprus Operation" was never anything but a war of conquest. Open threats are now the order of the day because, when one believes that might is right, there is no need for further argument.

### Americans for putting pressure on Turks

Public opinion in America, having realized the true nature of Turkish intervention in Cyprus, is now firmly behind the Greek Cypriot people. Significant proof of this is the motion in the American House of Representatives for halting U. S. aid to Turkey. This is now backed by 400 out of 435 members of the House, an unusually high consensus of opinion. Senator Edward Kennedy too has pledged his unqualified support for the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus, and has submitted a plan to the American Senate, demanding the complete withdrawal of all foreign troops from Cyprus and the restoration of peace to the island through the mediation of the United Nations.

The American people can see that the most effective way to control Turkish pretensions is by hitting at the very heart of her power. For Turkey's power is not based either on political finesse or cultural prestige but on sheer force of arms, and without American supplies and support she will be forced to release her grip on Cyprus territory and indeed on the Turkish Cypriots. She will no doubt also find it difficult to control the Kurds within her own borders. Without arms, there can be no more gun-point diplomacy and, knowing no other, Turkey will be forced to admit defeat and to arrive at a just settlement in spite of herself.



The results of Turkish "police" action. The jetty and customs warehouses at Paphos port, damaged by Turkish air attacks.