

# CYPRUS BULLETIN

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## PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON CYPRUS DEVELOPMENTS

During monthly meeting with correspondents



His Beatitude the President of the Republic told correspondents last Saturday, during his regular monthly meeting with the press that recent activities by General Grivas's armed groups have created a nationally unpleasant and harmful situation. The President added that General Grivas "has become a source of great anomaly for Cyprus" and expressed the view "that he should not be proud of it". His Beatitude continued that the seizure of weapons from the National Guard and the Police, the stealing of radio telephones and other equipment for use in illegal activities, the throwing of bombs, the incitement of innocent students to disorder, the circulation of leaflets threatening government organs and other activities of terrorist nature, are not acts of heroism. No national struggle can be carried out by such methods, which can only lead to national disaster.

President Makarios continued:

"The General's armed groups pose as a second EOKA. I am grieved that EOKA's struggle is being carried in such a way. I am also sorry that a section of the Press has been presenting the inadmissible disorders and terrorism in an approving manner, encouraging their continuation. The Government has so far shown coolness and great patience. Continuation of such a state of affairs, however, is no longer tolerable. Neither the Government, nor the people, will tolerate continuation of terrorism. Violence and terrorism by the General's armed groups will find the Government unyielding and will come up against popular reaction".

Asked whether he believed that recent events are connected, in one way or another, with the election period, President Makarios said that the "General and his supporters may be seeking to create tension

through incidents with a view to preventing the holding of elections and causing a chaotic situation. The General, indeed, has a catalytic capacity. The people, however, will not be daunted by any terrorist activities and elections will take place so that the people, whose great majority has so far been watching developments in silence, may be given the opportunity to speak and express their will through their votes".

In answer to another question President Makarios said that the climate of anomaly created by General Grivas may encourage elements of all kinds to resort to acts of violence and personal revenge.

The President of the Republic then announced that he will address a people's mass rally in Nicosia on February 8 when he will speak on the situation in general. A correspondent asked whether in the case of no contestant for the Presidential Elections he would seek the people's mandate in another manner. His Beatitude replied that the mass rally of February 8 will amount to a popular mandate.

The President denied press reports that he intended to ask for emergency powers in view of the situation. He was then asked to comment on reports that the men of General Grivas are equipped with Russian arms. The President replied that he could not exclude the possibility of followers of the General being in possession of Soviet arms.

He added: "I know that agents of the General have been touring neighbouring countries for the purchase of arms and that in one case a supplier of arms complained that the full amount had not been paid to him".

In reply to another question in connection with reports that General Grivas was getting arms from Israel and the Arabs, the President said that he did not think that the General had any official sources of supply of arms.

About the stand of the Greek Government on the internal anomaly President Makarios emphasised

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## FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FULLY SATISFIED WITH HIS TALKS IN ATHENS



The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. I. Cl. Christophides, last Saturday flew back from a five-day visit to Athens where he had talks with the Greek Government.

On arrival at Nicosia Airport, Mr. Christophides expressed deep satisfaction for the undivided interest shown by the Greek Government during his talks in the Greek capital. He said that during his talks political, cultural and other matters of a more general nature concerning relations between Greece and Cyprus were examined in complete sincerity.

The Foreign Minister expressed his happiness with the useful exchange of views carried out in the course of these talks and the lively interest shown by the National Centre in all matters discussed.

He added:

"The line drawn jointly by the Greek and

Cyprus Governments with regard to the handling of the facing of problems of mutual interest today, more than ever, renders necessary the closest possible co-operation with the National Centre through which alone could the Cyprus cause and, by extension, the interests of the whole nation, be served in a just way".

Asked what specifically had come out of his talks, Mr. Christophides said that during his stay in Athens the Cyprus problem was reviewed in the light of the continuing local talks. We continue to believe, he added, that in the circumstances the local talks procedure is the only line we can follow.

Asked what was the reaction of the Greek Government to recent incidents in Cyprus, Mr. Christophides said: "We reviewed the internal situation in the light of the wider national interests and the unity of the Greek Cypriot people".

Invited to express his personal views on recent developments in Cyprus, Mr. Christophides said that he could not have personal views, and that his views were those of the Government ad-

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### CONDOLENCES OF HIS BEATITUDE TO PRESIDENT NIXON

*The President of the Republic, Archbishop Makarios, last week sent a telegram of condolences to the President of the United States, Mr. Richard Nixon, on the death of the former U. S. President, Mr. Lyndon Johnson.*