

CYPRUS BULLETIN

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URGENT SETTLEMENT FOR CYPRUS

U. N. Security Council extends Peace Force mandate

The U. N. Security Council again urged the parties to the Cyprus dispute "to act with the utmost restraint and to continue and accelerate determined cooperative efforts to achieve the objects of the Security Council by availing themselves in a constructive manner of the present auspicious climate and opportunities".

The above urge is made in a resolution passed by the Security Council last Thursday, June 15, when it met to extend the mandate of the U. N. Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for a further six-month period ending on December 15, next.

Addressing the Council, U. N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim referred to his recent visit to Cyprus and stressed the need for speeding up the efforts for reaching a lasting solution to the Island's problem. He said that the situation in the island is "deeply worrying".

The Secretary General said he was gratified that the intercommunal talks, begun in 1968 but dormant since last September, had been formally re-activated at a session he attended in Nicosia on June 8.

He declared:

"I earnestly hope that, when the working meetings of the talks begin in early July, the interlocutors will find it possible to tackle the problems before them with determination and a sense of real urgency".

The resolution passed by the Council also expressed the expectation that by December 15 sufficient progress towards a final solution will make possible a withdrawal or substantial reduction of the Peace Force.

TENSION

Mr. Waldheim spoke of the suspicion between the two communities and said that this "blights the economic and social life and prospects of the island and gives rise to political instability and an atmosphere of tension and recrimination which is extremely dangerous, especially in view of the relatively large number of persons bearing arms in the island and the wider geo-political setting of the Cyprus problem".

Mr. Waldheim said that at many points on the island, including the capital Nicosia, the parties in armed confrontation were separated only by the United Nations flag and the soldiers of the 3,160-man U. N. peace keeping force.

"Almost equally disturbing is the lack of any normal contact between the communities and especially between the young people, many of whom have never spoken to members of the other community", Mr. Waldheim said.

The Secretary-General told the Council that the situation in the island "cannot and must not be allowed to continue, or indeed, to deteriorate."

"Means must be found to assist the parties in reaching agreement on a peaceful, just and lasting settlement so that the population of this island so richly endowed by nature can face the future together, freed from the fears and suspicions which now haunt them".

Mr. Waldheim noted that in his statement to the inaugural meeting of the reactivated intercommunal talks he had said the U. N. had a strong interest in seeing its peace-keeping function progress into the phase of peace-seeking, and, hopefully, of peace-making.

The Secretary General said that in his talks with all the parties in Nicosia, and later in Ankara and Athens, he pursued this theme and explored, in detail and with great frankness, the possibilities of making progress in this direction.

He told the Security Council that the governments of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey had all showed in their talks with him their desire and willingness to continue the search for an agreed, peaceful, just and lasting settlement.

Settlement of the Cyprus problem was "long

Continued on page 4

GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLE

Νέον Υπουργικό Συμβούλιο

Eight new Ministers assume duties

A reshuffle of the Government took place last Friday. Eight newly appointed Ministers gave the prescribed affirmation before the President of the Republic, Archbishop Makarios, at a formal ceremony at the Presidential Palace.

The new Ministers who gave the affirmation were the following:

- Ioannis Cl. Christophides, Minister of Foreign Affairs.**
- George X. Ioannides, Minister of the Interior and Defence.**
- Michael G. Colocassides, Minister of Commerce and Industry.**
- Odysseus A. Ioannides, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources.**
- Christos I. Vakis, Minister of Justice.**
- Andreas K. Kouros, Minister of Education.**
- Marcos P. Spanos, Minister of Labour and Social Insurance.**
- Yiangos Ch. Zambarloukos, Minister of Communications and Works.**

The Ministers declared:

"I do solemnly affirm faith to, and respect for the laws of the Cyprus Republic and the full performance, to the best of my ability, of the duties of Minister entrusted to me".

Addressing the new Ministers the President said:

"I warmly congratulate the new Ministers, who as from this moment are taking up the lofty duties which the Minister's office involves. You are assuming great responsibilities and obligations. I am sure that you are aware of them and I am confident that both in the specific field of your Ministry and in the whole Government work you will show enthusiasm, zeal and devotion to duty and that you will respond satisfactorily to the office entrusted to you. The people expect a lot from their Government. It is an imperative need that all, the President and the Ministers, should make every effort to live up to the people's expectations.

I invoke upon you God's help for the success of your difficult job".

Replying on behalf of the Ministers, Mr. Christophides said:

"We consider it a special honour that you have chosen us as your Ministers. The only thing we can say for the moment is that we shall do everything possible to help you in your difficult job. We hope that the joint efforts will bear fruits to the benefit of the entire people of Cyprus".

Present at the ceremony were the Minister of Finance, Mr. Andreas Patsalides, the Minister of Health, Mr. Michael Glykys, the Under-Secretary to the President, Mr. Patroclus Stavrou, the Director of the Public Information Office, Mr. Miltiades Christodoulou, the Secretary of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Antonios Andronikou and local and foreign press, radio and television representatives.

Following the ceremony the newly appointed Ministers went to their respective Ministries and assumed duties. They were received there by their outgoing predecessors who wished them every success.