

1. H. Zc. 16/8/96.

PAGE 5

Turkey Takes Tough Stand On Cyprus but Urges Talks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NICOSIA — Greece and Turkey sharpened their rhetoric Thursday over the divided island of Cyprus where two Greek Cypriots were killed in the UN-patrolled buffer zone this week.

Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller of Turkey said that Turks would "break the hands" of anyone who insulted their flag, referring to a Greek Cypriot man shot and killed by a soldier while climbing a flag-pole to pull down the Turkish flag.

"Why are we going to Cyprus? I'll tell you. Where we come from nobody lays a finger on the flag . . . if anyone has the nerve to do that, we'll break their hands," the state-run Anatolian news agency quoted Mrs. Ciller as telling a public meeting in Turkey shortly before flying to northern Cyprus.

Mrs. Ciller has called for the resumption of direct talks between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders.

Turkey has some 30,000 troops in the northern third of Cyprus, which it invaded in 1974 in response to a coup in Nicosia backed by the military then ruling Greece. Only Ankara recognizes the self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus set up in 1983.

Mrs. Ciller was met at Ercan airport by the Turkish Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktash.

Greece's prime minister, Costas Simitis, is scheduled to fly to Cyprus on Saturday to be briefed on the crisis by the internationally recognized Cypriot government led by President Glafcos Clerides.

"The situation is again very tense," a senior Greek government official, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters. "The premier wants to make it clear that any move by the Turks to the south will immediately mean war with Greece."

(Reuters, AFP)

1.4.72. 12/8

Greek Cypriot Dies as Bikers Cross UN Zone Dividing Island

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

DHARINIA, Cyprus — Hundreds of Greek and Turkish Cypriots clashed Sunday in the United Nations buffer zone dividing the island, killing one person and wounding dozens of others in the worst ethnic violence here in 22 years.

The violence erupted when a group of Greek Cypriot motorcyclists defied an order by Cypriot authorities and pushed through the so-called Green Line to protest Turkey's occupation.

Dozens of UN peacekeepers formed a human chain and tried to separate the two sides in a barren stretch of the buffer zone 50 kilometers (30 miles) southeast of Nicosia. But the protesters began throwing stones and firing slingshots and guns at one another.

Cyprus has been divided since 1974, when Turkish mainland troops invaded the northern third of the island in response to a coup in Nicosia inspired by the junta ruling Greece at the time.

The protest Sunday started as a bid by thousands of Greek Cypriot bikers to burst across the Green Line to protest the island's division. The organizers called the action off at the last minute after appeals from President Glavkos Klerides of Cyprus to avoid clashes. But many bikers defied the order and stormed through toward the Turkish side.

Hospital workers said Tassos Isaac, 24, a Greek Cypriot, died of head injuries.

Twelve Turkish Cypriot civilians and policemen were also wounded, said Atay Rasit, the foreign and defense minister of the Turkish Cypriot self-styled government.

Hospital workers and the police said 35 Greek Cypriots were wounded by bullets, stones and air rifle shots, mainly in the village of Aghna and the southeastern village of Dharinia.

Mr. Rasit said his self-proclaimed government regretted the violence and blamed the Greek Cypriot leaders and church for it. He said Turkish security forces had fired warning shots in the air, adding that rubber bullets were used "in order to minimize any injuries."

The United Nations said Sunday both sides were to blame. Waldemar Rokoszewski, spokesman for the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, said the Turkish and Greek Cypriot authorities "did not assume their responsibility by preventing civilians from entering the buffer zone."

Mr. Rokoszewski added, "Usually the Turkish Cypriots put barbed wire near their positions before every Greek Cypriot demonstration, and this time they didn't." (Reuters. AFP. AP)

Intern. Rev. Tribune
16.8.96

Η Τουρμία αφορά ευφυή οχλοειδή στην
Κύπρο αλλά κ' ηγείται για συνολικές.
Αναγορά κυρίως στην εισήγηση, ως συναντι-
σεις κ' ως ενόχους χίλλερ.

Intern. Rev. Tribune

12.8.96.

Εμφυλιοπολέμια γείναι κατά την
μοτοκυβερνητική διασύνταξη των πληθυσμών
Ηνωμένων Εθνών όχι διχοτομημένο πρό

Περσική των σεφοδίων. Ανηλώσεις του επικο-
σώτου ως εισηγούμενης δύναμης των Ην. Εθνών
στην Κύπρο για την ενδυνάμυνση των Εθνικών κ'
Τουρκικών Αξιών να επεξεργασθούν την σύμβαση.