Greek And Turkish Cypriot Leaders Agree On Compromise Peace Plan

Greek Cypriot President Archbishop Makarios and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash agreed in principle on a compromise last week that opens the way for a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus dispute and stability in the eastern Mediterranean region. The two leader reached the compromise solution during a meeting Feb. 12 in Cyprus held under the auspices of United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Waldheim described the tasks as a "real breakthrough."

Both leaders turned away from their previous hardline positions to reach the agreement. The Turkish side, for the first time, agreed to make substantial concessions on territory and accepted a strong central government in return for Greek agreement to a bicommunal federation system in the island. It was announced after the meeting that intercommunal talks to work out the details of the settlement plan will be re-opened in Vienna next month.

The breakthrough on Cyprus is a serious setback for the Carter administration plans for the island. Carter's special envoy Clark Clifford headed for the area Feb. 15 to try to dictate NATO's terms in the dispute and to sabotage any efforts toward a settlement outside of NATO auspices.

Clifford's appointment as mediator of the Cyprus dispute prompted sharp denunciations from the Greek and Cypriot press in the last two weeks. The most embarrassing insult came from Denktash. After the Feb. 12 meeting, Denktash objected to Clifford's mission as "untimely" and "unnecessary," adding: "The U.S. does not have any role to play in Cyprus. They should leave us alone."

The U.S. State Department had barely hid its dissatisfaction after the first unexpected meeting between Makarios and Denktash Jan. 27. The State Department expressed "reservations" over the meeting, and commented cynically that the dialogue "is not enough" to achieve results. The State Department assessment however, contradicted attempts by Trilateral Commission news outlets such as the New York Times and The Washington Post to peddle the line that positive moves around Cyprus were intended to "please" the new Carter administration.

Both Makarios and Denktash reportedly have met separately with the Soviet ambassador to Cyprus at least once in the last two weeks.

Demirel Forces In Turkey Begin To Move Against NATO Destabilization

The impetus behind Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash's unexpected peace gesture in Cyprus came from the government of Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel. The Cyprus compromise is viewed as part of the still tentative move by Demirel and pro-development Turkish forces to rid Turkey of the NATO-connected terror networks that are threatening to drive the country into utter chaos.

In the past six months, near-bankrupt Turkey has been heavily engaged in expanding economic and political relations — in particular with the socialist sector, Italy, and Iraq — primarily seeking aid to develop its industry and energy sectors. With an extremely shaky coalition government of four political parties, however, Turkey was not able to make the decisive political decision to completely break with the dollar empire and its debt enforcer, NATO.

In this situation, Prime Minister Demirel has been particularly vulnerable to the blackmail and threats of other coalition partners because of his fear that the ruling coalition would collapse, taking with it his power.

In the past two weeks, coinciding with the moves toward a settlement in Cyprus, the destabilization operation controlled by NATO has reached the point where a military intervention is threatened. The NATO disruption inside Turkey is run by Deputy Prime Minister Alpasian Turkes and his National Action Party paramilitary thugs. The Turkes operation included an ultimatum to Demirel to control the violence from an Air Force general who is linked to Bulent Ecevit and the agent wing of the Social Democratic opposition. More than 35 persons, mostly students have been killed since January, by the fascist followers of Turkes.

This week Demirel sternly warned against a military