Attic Cronicle by Phocion

The 'Cyprus Dossier,' again.

The manner of its reemergence is indicative of what the Soviets intend for the region.

n Wesdnesday, Nov. 7, 1984, the first official meeting took place between Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and the new Soviet ambassador to Greece, Igor Andropov, the son of the late Yuri Andropov. The following day, Papandreou left for state visits to Syria and Jordan, the oldest and youngest military clients of the Soviet Union, respectively, in the Arab world. Among Papandreou's other tasks during those visits will be to strengthen the Soviet Union's position in orchestrating both sides of the war between Iran and Iraq.

He left behind him in Athens an unmitigated political disaster provoked by certain statements of a spokesman of the Greek Cypriot government—a statement which is highly indicative of how Igor Andropov intends to play Russia's new game in her Balkan-Levant satrapies.

The Cypriot spokesman, Mr. A. Christophides, announced on Sunday, Nov. 4 that "the United States is no longer interested in the solution of the Cyprus question." He further charged that, according to Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle, the current status quo in Cyprus, where 40% of the island's territory is occupied by Turkey, favors the interests of both the United States and NATO.

Mr. Christophides then asserted that the Soviet Union has displayed patience in the matter and has prudently avoided getting entangled in the Cyprus mess even though she is favorably inclined toward the Cypriot (and presumably, the Greek) cause.

Finally, Christophides "expressed his fear that the United States might 'destabilize' the Papandreou government, i.e., overthrow it by means of manipulating the Cyprus crisis."

He then proceeded to himself destabilize the Greek regime by stating that which is supposed to be unutterable in modern Greek politics:

"Back in 1977, Messrs. Constantine Caramanlis and Andreas Papandreou entered an agreement to keep the 'Cyprus Dossier' sealed because, among other reasons, in 1974 [after seven years of military dictatorship], Greece was militarily absolutely unprepared to confront Turkey. Moreover, Mr. Caramanlis back then had said that if Turkey knew the [military] situation in 1974, they would certainly know it in 1977."

Mr. Christophides concluded: "Let them know it. The opening of the Cyprus Dossier at this time will be useful."

The following day, Nov. 5, Papandreou's Socialists pushed through a legislative measure establishing a parliamentary commission to open the 'Cyprus Dossier."

Few persons know what it contains. This column's best estimate is that the "Cyprus Dossier" contains all the sordid details of a special operation by Henry Kissinger, Cyrus Sulzberger of the New York Times, and Winston Lord of the New York Council on Foreign Relations back in the winter 1973-summer 1974 period, right after the Yom Kippur war. Henry Kissinger personally, and Cyrus Sulzberger through his Greek-born wife, organized a series of secret meetings in Paris between then-exiled Constantine Caramanlis, two Greek publishers (one of whom is now dead), Turkish Premier Bulent Ecevit, Cypriot President Archbishop Makarios, and certain representatives of the Turkish military. According to this account, Archbishop Makarios agreed to a prearranged Turkish military invasion of Cyprus on the pretext of rescuing his pristine, so to speak, democracy from the accursed dictatorship of his Athenian cousins. Caramanlis is said to have nodded agreement to this scheme of Kissinger's on grounds that it would lead to the toppling of the colonels' junta, an event which would almost certainly catapult him to power in Greece. As it happened, events turned out exactly this way.

Caramanlis, the father figure of modern Greek moderate conservatism, came to power on Turkish bayonettes, half literally. This is presumably the deeper secret of the Cyprus Dossier. Today, Andreas Papandreou is preparing for a presidential election in May 1985, which will decide whether Caramanlis will serve another five years or not, and a general parliamentary election scheduled for October 1985, which might signal either the commencement of a new civil war or the establishment of a Marxist-Leninist "people's democracy" in Greece.

Under Igor Andropov's skillful coaching, Papandreou is systematically destroying Caramanlis with threats to "reveal all" hidden in the Cyprus Dossier. Caramanlis so far has responded with a pathetic "leaking" to the public of certain secret letters written by Andreas's father, the late George Papandreou, which paint Andreas more or less as a traitor to his father's political legacy. But nobody cares about that.