

Soviet Promises to Aid Cyprus In Case of Any Foreign Invasion

From News Service
MOSCOW, Aug. 15—The Russian government tonight pledged itself to come to the aid of Cyprus if the strife-torn island is subjected to foreign invasion.

A government statement, broadcast over Moscow radio tonight, told Russians for the first time that President Makarios of Cyprus had appealed to Russia for aid. It offered to begin negotiations on this now.

But the Soviet government was careful not to take sides in the struggle between Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

Observers in Moscow were struck by the moderation of the statement. It levelled no accusations at NATO or at Turkey, which last week strafed and bombed Cyprus in order to aid Turkish Cypriots.

Both NATO and Turkey were criticized in the Moscow press in the past week.

The official Soviet Tass news agency meanwhile, published what it said was a Greek Cypriot statement rejecting a plan reported to have been proposed by U.S. presidential troubleshooter Dean Acheson at Cyprus talks in Geneva.

"The U.S. proposal to begin the settlement of the Cyprus problem by joining Cyprus to Greece is a dangerous trap and is fraught with irrepar-

able consequences for the Republic of Cyprus," Tass quoted the Greek Cypriot statement as saying.

"But the Cypriots will not permit it to deceive them. They will continue to fight with even greater resolution for the self-determination of their state."

Tass attributed the statement to "a spokesman of the Makarios government."

Acheson's plan is reported to involve union of Greece with Cyprus, establishment of a NATO base on Cyprus with

Bernard D. Nossiter delves into the thorny problem of Cypriot President Makarios in today's Outlook Section.

Turkish troops forming part of the garrison and the possibility of moving Turkish Cypriots to a Greek island to be ceded to Turkey.

A Turkish spokesman said yesterday such a plan could form a basis for negotiations on a Cyprus settlement.

The Soviet statement pledging aid to Cyprus in event of an invasion was distributed by Tass as well as broadcast by Radio Moscow.

Following is a full text of the Russian statement:

"In view of direct danger

of intrusion of foreign armed forces on the territory of Cyprus President Makarios addressed the Soviet government with a request for military aid to protect the sovereignty and independence of the Republic of Cyprus.

"Guided by the interest of consolidating peace, the Soviet government has invariably come out in support of the just cause of the Republic of Cyprus which is defending the right of all Cypriots—Greeks and Turks—to work peacefully and strengthen their united sovereign state.

"We have stated more than once that any attempt to solve internal problems of Cyprus through an armed intervention from outside can lead to nothing else but further aggravation of the situation on Cyprus and around Cyprus.

"The Soviet Union has warned about responsibility for the dangerous consequences that may result from an armed attack on Cyprus.

"The Soviet government has stated that in the event of an aggression against the Republic of Cyprus the Soviet Union will not be indifferent to the threat of an armed conflict, which may break out near the southern frontiers of the Soviet Union and affect

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continue making efforts to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus problem in line with the interests both of the Greek and Turkish communities, in line with the interests of preserving independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus.

"But if the events develop in a different direction, if the situation continues to aggravate and the territory of the Republic of Cyprus is invaded the Soviet Union will not remain on the sidelines.

"In reply to the appeal of the government of Cyprus and President Makarios personally the Soviet government declares that if a foreign armed invasion of the territory of the Republic takes place, the Soviet Union will help the Republic of Cyprus to defend her freedom and independence from foreign invasion and is prepared to begin negotiations on this matter right now.

If the offer to begin negotiations was a bid for an alliance with the Republic of Cyprus, such a deal bringing the Soviet Union into the Mediterranean could change the entire power setup in the region.

The bitter quarrel between Turkey and Greece over the island has already had severe repercussions on the eastern anchor of NATO. Both Turkey and Greece are members but Cyprus is not.

the security of our country as well as the security of states which are our friends and allies.

"The Soviet Union has closely followed and is following now the developments in

the area of Cyprus. On Aug. 9, the head of the Soviet government N. S. Khrushchev urged the governments of the countries concerned, Turkey included, to show restraint and unconditional respect for the independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus.

"The situation in Cyprus has somewhat eased in recent days. Direct military actions against the Republic of Cyprus have been halted. But to all appearances the situation around Cyprus is, as before, fraught with complications. "The Soviet Union will