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January 22, 1990

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The Honorable
Robert Dole
Office of the Minority Leader
United States Capitol S-230
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Bob:

Congratulations on your recent initiative, as set forth in your op-ed page article in the New York Times on January 16, 1990 regarding the reallocation of 5% of certain foreign aid amounts to democracy building in Eastern Europe, Panama and elsewhere.

First, this letter confirms my comments by telephone to Al Lehn of your staff (Deputy Director, Office of Classified National Security Information) on Friday, January 19, 1990 expressing support generally for your initiative and specifically supporting in the interests of the United States the 5% reduction in aid to Turkey and proposing that it be coupled with a 5% reduction in aid for Greece.

As mentioned to Mr. Lehn this position is supported by the American Hellenic Institute Public Affairs Committee, whose Chairman is Dr. Dean C. Lomis, and the Order of AHEPA Cyprus and Hellenic Affairs Committee, whose Chairman is Michael Savvides, and a number of Greek American leaders throughout the country who were contacted.

I have no doubt this position would be supported by the overwhelming majority of Greek Americans as in the best interests of the U.S. I am also confident it would have the support of the majority of all Americans.

Second, we propose in the interests of the United States and support of the rule of law a further reduction in aid to Turkey by the amount it costs Turkey to maintain in Cyprus its 35,000 occupation troops and 60,000 colonists illegally in Cyprus, plus the amount it allocates to the Turkish Cypriot administration.

Former Under Secretary of State William Schneider, Jr., stated in testimony on February 21, 1984 before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Security and Scientific Affairs that it costs Turkey \$9,000 annually to maintain and equip one Turkish soldier. Thus the cost to Turkey in 1984 for its 35,000 occupation troops in Cyprus was \$315,000,000.

According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies (London) the Turkish Cypriot administration's total budget for 1988 was \$138,000,000 of which Turkey provided \$75,900,000. This consisted of \$46,000,000 of direct aid and \$29,900,000 in credits.

Third, we recommend in the interests of the United States a further reduction in aid to Turkey by the amount it costs to maintain Turkey's Army of the Aegean and landing craft aimed at Greece's Aegean islands. That army consisting of an estimated 125,000 men is not part of NATO's forces and was created specifically to threaten Greece.

Thus all U.S. military aid to Turkey of \$500,000,000 (plus \$3,000,000 IMET) and economic aid of \$60,000,000 goes to support Turkey's illegal occupation of northern Cyprus and to finance (in part) Turkey's Army of the Aegean which threatens Greece's Aegean islands.

But this is not all. A substantial portion of Turkey's remaining armed forces of approximately 490,000 (650,000 minus 35,000 in Cyprus and the 125,000 Army of the Aegean) is used to suppress Turkey's 10,000,000 Kurdish citizens.

Fourth, Turkey by its actions in Cyprus and in Turkey is in violation of the human rights Sections 116 and 502B(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and therefore is ineligible for assistance.

Fifth, in view of the above and the momentous events in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and the arms reduction talks, we urge a critical review of U.S.-Turkey relations.