

Top Secret



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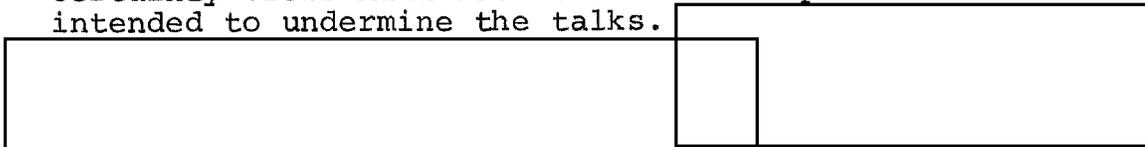
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CYPRUS: President Makarios, now in Moscow, is pressing for a strong statement of support from the Soviets.



For their part, the Soviets are likely to use the visit to exploit their common interest with Makarios in guarding against Greek-Turkish or other Western pressures for any form of "enosis." They will probably be reluctant, however, to go as far as Makarios hopes in the final communiqué. The Soviets do not wish to hamper their improved relations with Turkey, and have in fact invited Turkish Prime Minister Erim to visit the USSR, in part to offset Ankara's current pique over Makarios' visit.

Greece is also annoyed over the Makarios visit. Although Athens would welcome Soviet support against any type of Turkish power play, the regime does not relish the prospect of increased Soviet influence in Cyprus. In addition, the current discussions between Athens and Ankara over the Cyprus problem are at a delicate stage, and the Greek regime almost certainly views Makarios' visit as a diplomatic move intended to undermine the talks.



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