

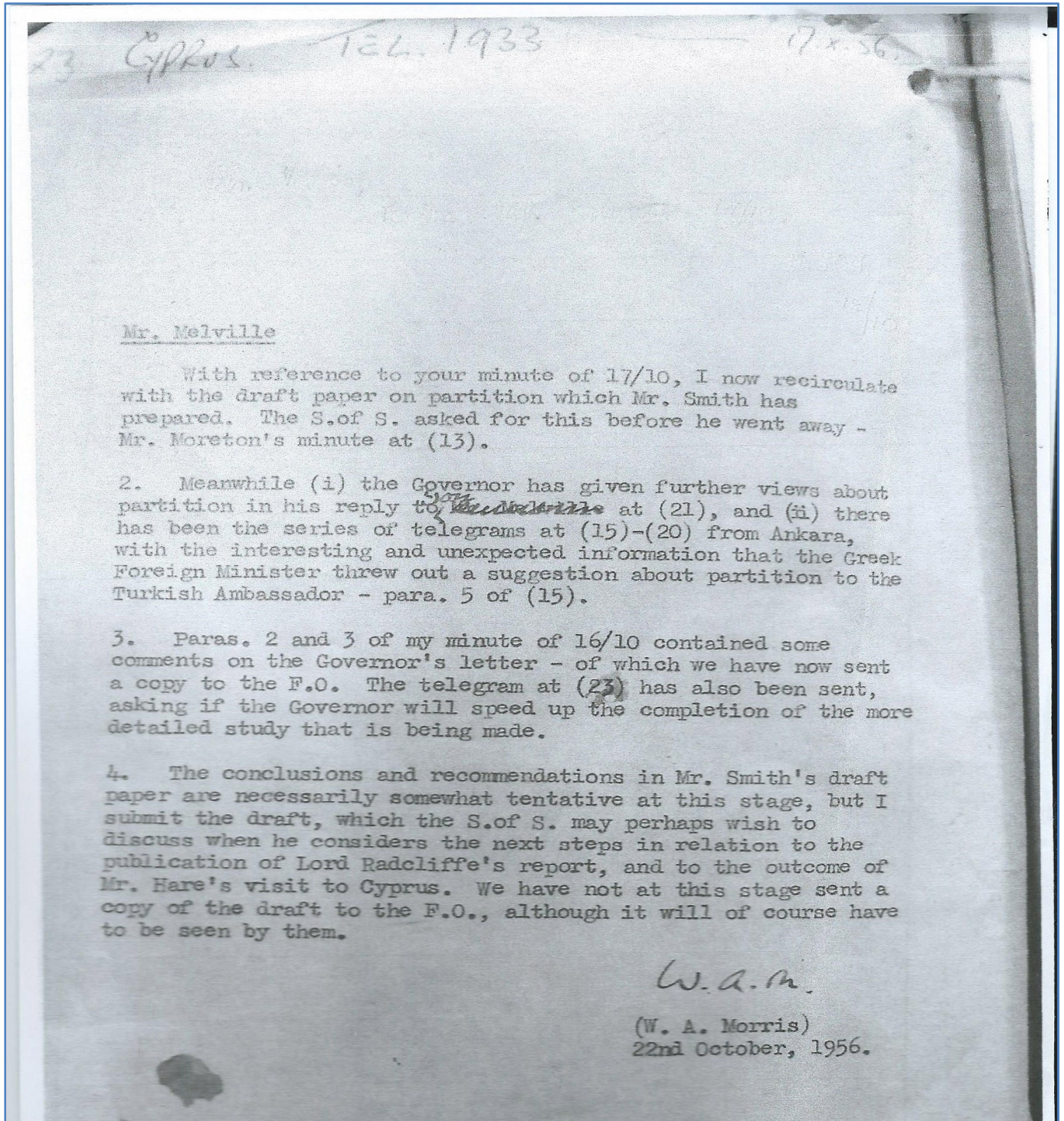
# Cyprus Hidden History.

## Did the Greeks offer to partition Cyprus?

By Ismail Veli

I would like to thank Mr Ersu Ekrem for kindly sharing the archive documents related to this article as seen below and published on [www.cyprusscene.com](http://www.cyprusscene.com). These documents can be found at the National Archives at Kew Gardens, London, UK.

### Partition document number 1.



Partition document number 2.

15/20  
Mr. Melville

You should know from these papers that the S. of S. has asked that a paper on partition should be prepared, so that he can discuss the subject with his colleagues in the light of the Minister's talks in Cyprus. (13).

2. Mr. Smith made a tentative draft, but we have this morning received the Governor's letter to you, in reply to (18), which will be attached here, as soon as some copies have been made. (Mr. Smith wishes to send a copy to the F.O.).

3. Mr. Smith will be able to recast his draft now that the Governor's letter is in and the file should go back to him for that. Although the Governor's letter is a valuable discussion of the pros and cons of partition as a general principle, it is still unfortunately incomplete about the mechanics of any partition, and a further study of that is promised.

4. Meantime, the telegrams at (15) - (19) from Ankara give a quite new and unexpected twist to this. The Greek Foreign Minister tentatively suggested partition to the Turkish Ambassador (para. 5 of (15)); and M. Birgi in Ankara gave the Counsellor a personal Turkish reaction (para. 2 of (17)). You will see from (19) that Mr. Stewart concludes that this is the first evidence that the Turkish Government might consider the Cyprus question on any other basis than that of maintenance of the status quo. Also that Mr. Stewart now believes that we have practically no hope of securing even their acquiescence

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Partition document number 3.

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SECRET

22105/514/56

RG 10813/16

U.K. Delegation to N.A.T.O.,

3 rue d'Aguesseau,  
PARIS.

December 20, 1956.

P/W. ~~P/O~~ Recd 27/12

Dear Hilary

With reference to my telegram No: 238 of December 18 about Cyprus, I should tell you that in conversation before the meeting my Greek colleague who always gives a very reasonable impression, said straight out that in his opinion only a radical solution was now possible. When I said in reply that we were going to hold out the eventual prospect of partition if nothing was done, he said that he had long felt this was the only solution. I think he cuts a good deal more ice than his predecessor with his government and it occurs to me that there may be a greater willingness to accept partition in the last resort on the Greek side than we have hitherto been led to expect.

Yours ever

Kit

Christopher Steel

