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LETTRÉ DATEE DU 14 SEPTEMBRE 1989, ADRESSEE AU SECRETAIRE
GENERAL PAR LE REPRESENTANT PERMANENT DE LA TURQUIE AUPRES
DE L'ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire tenir ci-joint le texte d'une lettre datée du 14 septembre 1989 qui vous est adressée par M. Ozer Koray, représentant de la République turque de Chypre-Nord.

Je vous serais obligé de bien vouloir faire distribuer le texte de la présente lettre et de son annexe comme document de la quarante-troisième session, au titre du point 47 de l'ordre du jour, et du Conseil de sécurité.

L'Ambassadeur,

Représentant permanent.

(Signé) Mustafa AKSIN

ANNEXE

Lettre datée du 14 septembre 1989, adressée au Secrétaire général
par M. Ozer Koray

D'ordre de mon gouvernement, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre le texte d'un article publié le 4 septembre 1989 dans Defense News; il y est question des achats d'armements récemment effectués par l'Administration chypriote grecque dans le cadre de sa campagne d'accroissement de la puissance militaire. Depuis quelques années, ces achats prennent une ampleur dangereuse.

Je vous serais obligé de bien vouloir faire distribuer le texte de cette lettre comme document de la quarante-troisième session de l'Assemblée générale, au titre du point 47 de l'ordre du jour, et du Conseil de sécurité.

Le Représentant,

(Signé) Ozer KORAY

APPENDIX

CYPRUS RESUMES MAJOR ARMAMENT PROCUREMENTS FROM FRANCE

DEFENSE NEWS, September 4, 1989

By Giovanni de Briganti
Defense News Staff Writer

PARIS - After almost a two-year delay, the Republic of Cyprus will continue its multi-year rearmament project.

In early July, Cyprus awarded Societe Francaise de Materiels d'Armement (SOFMA), one of France's state-controlled defense export agencies, a contract valued at more than 800 million French francs (\$122 million) for the supply of AMX-30B2 tanks and other unspecified equipment valued at 100 million French francs (\$15.4 million) to the Cyprus National Guard.

The tank portion of the contract was reported last Wednesday by the Paris daily Les Echos. The complete deal covers 35 AMX-30B2 main battle tanks, a single AMX-30D recovery tank, related 105 mm and 20 mm ammunition, as well as spares and support equipment manufactured by Groupement Industriel Des Armements Terrestres (GIAT). The tanks are to be delivered over the next three years.

Both the French and Cypriot Defense Ministries declined comment. Yannis Fantis, the Cyprus Government spokesman, said, "Our policy is to never comment on reports of this kind."

The tank buy is only part of a major multi-year arms package agreed to in 1986 between France, Greece and the Greek-controlled Republic of Cyprus. Under the agreement, weapons estimated at more than 3.5 billion French francs (\$538 million) will be financed by low-interest loans from France as well as the Greek government.

Officials say several other contracts are expected later this year. A decision is expected this month on the procurement of up to 100 rifled 120 mm mortars and related ammunition. Paris based Thomson-Brandt Armement and Esperanza & Cia, a Spanish firm, are competing for that award.

Cyprus, sources say, should also order in October 12 AMX-AUF3 self-propelled 155 mm howitzers and a dozen armored ammunition carriers and battery command vehicles manufactured by Creusot Loire Industries.

Updating air-defense forces is the next priority. Cyprus, which in 1987 became the fourth customer for Matra's Mistral short-range surface-to-air missile, has to date ordered the man-portable version, and is pressing Matra to make initial deliveries this month.

To obtain a mobile short-range air-defense capability, the Cyprus National Guard also plans to fit additional Mistrals to at least 12 Vehicules de l'Aavant Blinde (VAB) wheeled armored vehicles manufactured by Paris based Renault Vehicules Industriels. Because of budget considerations and availability, the National Guard is considering buying the lightweight, twin Albi vehicle mount.

Procurement of the more capable, six-round Hispano-Sulza Santal turret, which features an Electronique Serge Dassault Rodeo 2 search radar and six Mistral missiles, has been delayed because the French Army has suspended funding for its final development.

To support and complement the vehicle-mounted Mistrals, Cyprus also plans to procure 12 additional VABs fitted with the Electronique Serge Dassault TA-20 twin 20 mm cannon anti-aircraft turret, officials say.

At a later date, procurement of 18 anti-tank VABs, fitted with the Euromissile UTM-800 four-missile turret, also is planned. Deliveries of 18 vehicles ordered in 1987 are continuing, and Cyprus holds a contract option for another 18 vehicles. Finally, possibly by early 1990, Cyprus also intends to procure four additional Gazelle anti-tank helicopters armed with HOT missiles.

In June 1987, under the first phase of the agreement with France, Cyprus ordered 15 AMX-30B2 tanks and one AMX-30D armored recovery vehicle, four Aerospatiale SA-342M Gazelle helicopters armed with Euromissile HOT anti-tank missiles, an unspecified quantity of tripod-mounted Mistral missiles and 18 anti-tank variants of the VAB fitted with the Euromissile UTM-800 turret fitted with four HOT missiles. Cyprus also operates 120 standard VAB personnel carriers which it procured in the 1970s and early 1980s.

The second tank contract, which has been pending for more than a year, was made possible by a recent French government decision to overrule long-standing objections by its Foreign Ministry. The department opposed supplying Cypriots with additional weapons for fear of antagonizing Turkey, a country France is trying to improve relations. France also is trying to sell military hardware to Turkey, including surface-to-air missiles, towed and self-propelled artillery, helicopters.