

Erhurman and Akinci poll front runners

**TURKISH** Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci and Turkish Republican Party chairman Tufan Erhurman led a recent poll ahead of an October election in the north. The poll, published in *Kibris Postasi*, had Akinci and Erhurman leading in the first round with 23.2 per cent and 18.6 per cent respectively. The survey was conducted in July with 1,002 personal interviews and included Akinci, Erhurman, 'prime minister' Ersin Tatar, 'foreign minister' Kudret Ozersay, and Rebirth party head Erhan Arikli. Tatar came in third in first-round voting with 16.2 per cent, followed by Arikli, 6.4 per cent, and Ozersay with 6.2 per cent. The majority of the people canvassed, 63.9 per cent, consider the 'government' in the north a failure while 18.6 per cent sat on the fence. Sixteen per cent said the administration is successful. The majority also considers Akinci's 'presidency' a failure, 46.9 per cent, while 17.5 per cent say he is a success. Around 33 per cent said neither successful neither a failure. People were also asked which politician they would never vote for with Arikli coming in first with 64.8 per cent, followed by Tatar, 59.3 per cent, Akinci, 58.3 per cent, Ozersay, 46 per cent, and Erhurman, 20.8 per cent.

# Turkish Cypriot side is 'set to resettle Varosha'

## EU calls for talks to resume

**TURKISH** Cypriots are almost ready to begin reopening the town of Varosha, the breakaway state's premier said on Friday, a former resort area fenced off and abandoned in no-man's land since a 1974 Turkish invasion that split the island. Turkish Cypriot 'prime minister' Ersin Tatar said the revival of Varosha would bring trade and tourism benefits. Varosha, a southern suburb of the city of Famagusta, has been a ghost town since the 1974 invasion. Varosha has become a bargaining chip in the decades-long dispute between Greek and Turkish Cypriots. Ringed by a fence extending into the sea, the town is overrun by cacti and debris. "Varosha is most definitely going to be opened. The tide has shifted, a new page has been turned," Tatar said. (Northern Cyprus) will become stronger by opening Varosha to tourism." Tatar gave no specific timeline for reopening Varosha. "Varosha lies within TRNC ter-

ritory," he said, referring to the breakaway state recognised only by Turkey. "Nobody can take it from us. We are successfully continuing on our path. The inventory work is almost complete, we are in the opening phase." The European Commission has said it is aware of announcements made in the north to reopen Varosha and is calling on Turkey to commit and contribute to the settlement of the Cyprus problem, spokesperson Vivial Loonela said on Friday. "On the status of Varosha, the European Union will continue to be guided by the United Nations (UN) Security Council Resolution 550 (1984) and other relevant Security Council Resolutions," she said. UN Security Council resolution 550 (1984) considers any attempts to settle any part of Varosha by people other than its inhabitants as inadmissible and calls for the transfer of this area to the administration of the UN. "The EU has repeatedly emphasised that



Varosha has become a bargaining chip in the Cyprus negotiations

it remains crucial that Turkey commits and contributes to the settlement of the Cyprus problem, including its external aspects, within the UN framework, in accordance with relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and respecting the principles on which the European Union is founded and the acquis," she added. The EU would continue to convey clear messages to Turkey in this regard, she said. On the Cyprus talks, she said it was urgent for the parties to seek, with the support of the UN, a path back to their resumption.

## Committee to aid Lebanon

THE cabinet on Friday decided to set up a committee aimed at helping Lebanese individuals carry out their business from Cyprus and help students wishing to study in the Republic. According to an announcement from the interior ministry, an inter-ministerial committee will be set up and is set to have a fully-fledged plan by the beginning of next week on how to help Lebanese people who want to transfer their business activities to Cyprus. Those who wish to let their children attend educational institutions in Cyprus will also receive help, the ministry said. The ministry said they would be offering incentives and a fast-track system for granting necessary licences to simplify the process "for all those who wish to continue their professional activities in our country, in solidarity that the Republic of Cyprus has actively shown since the onset." On August 4, Beirut suffered from an enormous explosion after 2,750 tonnes of ammonium nitrate stored at the city's port detonated. The incident caused the death of over 220 people and left more than 300,000 homeless. The sounds of the explosion were heard across Cyprus which has since sent over 70 tonnes of supplies.

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF PAPHOS**  
**RATIFICATION JURISDICTION OF WILLS**  
Regarding the deceased, **JOHN EDWARD CHURCHMAN**, from Agia Marinouda Paphos.  
  
Notice is given that after the expiration of 8 days from the publication of the present, will be submitted to the Registry Ratification of Wills of Paphos District Court, an application for concession to **MARIA CHURCHMAN** from Agia Marinouda, Paphos, of the validation concession of the will of **JOHN EDWARD CHURCHMAN** from Agia Marinouda Paphos, who passed away.  
  
**(Signature) Elias M. Eliades**  
*Lawyer of the executor*

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