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LETTER DATED 24 JANUARY 1967 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CYPRUS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of Turkey in his letter (S/7687) tries to gloss over the threat of naked aggression against my country, contained in the statement made by his Foreign Minister Mr. I.S. Chaglayangil to the Turkish National Assembly on 6 January 1967, which was the subject of my communication to the President of the Security Council (S/7674). Mr. Eralp alleges that I misquoted or quoted out of context from that statement, and proceeds to render what he calls the "exact passage". But he alters its meaning and effect by leaving out significant sentences, reliably quoted by the news agencies and the Press.

Ambassador Eralp thus omits the following sentence, contained verbatim and in quotes in the Associated Press cable of 6 January 1967:

"The Turkish forces are on alert, keeping watch on our coasts nearest Cyprus like the sword of Damocles paralysing those of bad will."

"Bad will" is obviously attributed to those who will not submit to the arbitrary will of Turkey.

In the same way Ambassador Eralp omits another significant sentence, also cabled in quotes by the Associated Press, as follows:

"If you decide we will act. Then we will sit at the table and impose our will."

Texts given in quotes by the Associated Press can well be relied upon as accurate, particularly in the absence of the relevant parliamentary reports, which were not made available to the public by the Turkish National Assembly either on the day following the meeting, as is the generally accepted custom, or on subsequent days, when requests were repeatedly made.

Ambassador Eralp further in his letter quotes from Mr. Chaglayangil's statement the following:

"It has become our joint objective to pursue to the very end all possibilities in the diplomatic field"

but stops at that, leaving out the phrase which continued and completed the sentence, as follows:

"until such time as we may have to put our forces and other measures into operation".

The above text, as one complete whole, was quoted in the Official Bulletin of the Turkish Embassy in Nicosia dated 14 January 1967.

The effect, therefore, of the Turkish Foreign Minister's statement, although made in answer to the opposition, is and remains that Turkey threatens to use military force and aggression against Cyprus as a means of achieving a solution to its own liking, if such solution is not obtained by political means. The dire implications to world peace of such gunboat diplomacy of the past being resuscitated and openly declared as a policy in respect of Cyprus, in violation of international law and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, are too obvious to need any elaboration.

It is to be hoped, however, that the folly and self-defeating effects of such policy of bellicose aggressiveness in our present-day world of the United Nations, will be realized by all who irresponsibly advocate it.

Your Excellency is kindly requested to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council and distributed to all Members of the United Nations.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Zenon ROSSIDES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations