



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/39/183
S/16484
16 April 1984

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-ninth session
Items 29 and 31 of the preliminary list*
QUESTION OF NAMIBIA
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 16 April 1984 from the Permanent Representative of
Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 16 April 1984 addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 29 and 31 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. Coşkun KIRCA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/39/50.

84-09682 11010 (E)

/...

ANNEX

Letter dated 16 April 1984 from Mr. Nail Atalay
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 12 March 1984 (A/39/129-S/16406) from the representative of the Greek Cypriot administration and, in rejecting in toto his baseless accusations, to bring to your kind attention the following.

We are accused of "segregation" just because we refused to bow to the demands of armed Greek Cypriot leaders and their followers. We are accused of "apartheid" just because we refused to abandon our status as a co-founder partner people in Cyprus. Some excerpts from the Secretary-General's reports and from the world press may help to put the issue in proper perspective.

"General Gyani, the United Nations Commander, spoke out sharply against Greek Cypriots today in front of President Makarios.

"The two men were walking through Famagusta dockyard next to the walled Turkish quarters...

"President Makarios commented 'it is all right here' and the theme was taken up by Greek Cypriot district commissioners in the party.

"The General spun around on them and barked; 'It is not. Do not always complain about the other side. No Turk is safe in the Greek quarter and the incident at the NAAFI demonstrates that.'

/...

"General Gyani was referring to a reprisal raid by armed Greek Cypriots in which they seized ten Turkish Cypriot workers from the British NAAFI base. Another 23 have been taken hostage since."

(extract from "Daily Mail" of
16th May, 1964) from John Starr

"General Gyani, the United Nations Commander in Cyprus, was unable to conceal his exasperation over the recent kidnapping of 32 Turkish Cypriots when he met Greek Cypriot officials at the docks at Famagusta today.

"As the President and the General walked through the docks, deafened at times by the roar of welcoming ships' sirens, General Gyani found himself listening to a recital of complaints against the Turks. He suddenly rounded on an official and said: 'Don't you talk to me about the Turks when the Greeks have been abducting them from the NAAFI. The Archbishop laid smoothing hand on the General's shoulder and General Gyani turned to him and said; 'I am sorry, sir, this man has got to be told.'"

(extract from "The Guardian" of
16th May, 1964) from Michael Parkin

"Silent crowds gathered tonight outside the Red Crescent hospital in the Turkish sector of Nicosia, as the bodies of nine Turks found crudely burried outside the villages of Ayios Vassilios, 13 miles away, were brought to the hospital under an escort of the Parachute Regiment. Three more bodies, including one of a woman, were discovered nearby but they could not be moved.

"Turks guarded by paratroops are still trying to locate the bodies of 20 more believed to have been burried on the same site. All are believed to have been killed during fighting around the village at Christmas.

/...

"It is thought that a family of seven Turks who disappeared from the village may be buried there. Their house was found burnt, and grenades had been dropped through the roof.

"Shallow graves have apparently been hurriedly scooped by a bulldozer. The bodies appeared to have been piled in two or three feet deep. All had been shot.

"One man had his arms still tied behind his legs in a crouching position and had been shot through the head. A stomach injury indicated that a grenade may have been thrown into his lap..."

("Daily Telegraph of 14th January, 1964)

The U.N. Secretary-General referred to the plight of the Turkish Cypriot refugees of 1963, in the following terms in paragraph 126 of his Report No. S/8286 of the 8th December, 1967 to the Security Council:

"126. When the disturbance broke out in December 1963 and continued the first part of 1964, thousands of Turkish Cypriots fled from their homes, taking with them only what they could drive or carry, and sought refuge in what they considered to be safer Turkish Cypriot villages and areas..."

Homes, household effects, shops, orchards and farms belonging to 25,000 Turkish Cypriots in 103 villages were plundered and destroyed by their Greek neighbours. Losses and damages to property amounted to millions of Pounds Sterling. The extent of this initial damage is summarised by the U.N. Secretary-General in paragraph 180 of his Report No. S/5950 of 10th September, 1964 to the Security Council as follows:

/...

"180. UNFICYP carried out a detailed survey of all damage to properties throughout the island during the disturbances, including the Tylliria fighting. It shows that in 109 villages, most of them Turkish Cypriot or mixed villages, 527 houses have been destroyed while 2,000 others have suffered damage from looting. In Ktima 38 houses and shops have been destroyed totally and 122 partially. In the Omorphita suburb of Nicosia 50 houses have been totally destroyed while a further 240 have been partially destroyed there and in adjacent suburbs."

The U.N. Secretary-General in paragraph 190 of his Report No. S/5950 of 10th September, 1964 to the Security Council, refers to the refugee problem, as at that date, in the following terms:

"190. In addition to losses incurred in agriculture and in industry during the first part of the year, the Turkish community has lost other sources of its income including the salaries of over 4,000 persons who were employed by the Cyprus Government and by public and private concerns located in the Greek Cypriot zones.. The trade of the Turkish community had considerably declined during the period, due to the existing situation, and unemployment reached a very high level as approximately 25,000 Turkish Cypriots had become refugees. Expenditure of the Turkish Communal Chamber on development and other projects, as well as other expenditure, had dropped considerably as a yearly subsidy formerly received from the Government had ceased to be granted in 1964. Furthermore, a large part of its remaining resources had to be used for unemployment relief and other forms of compensation as approximately half of the population came to be on relief. In accordance with figures published by the Turkish Cypriot communal Chamber, the number of persons receiving some kind of assistance from the Red Crescent relief amounted to about 56,000 including 25,000 displaced persons, 23,500 unemployed and 7,500 dependents of missing persons, disabled and others."

/...

The scorching summer of 1964 came and went with no respite for the suffering of refugees and this time in paragraph 51 of his Report No. S/6102 of 12th December, 1964, to the Security Council, the U.N. Secretary-General expressed concern regarding the health hazard which the conditions of the refugees presented in the then approaching winter of 1964-1965. This is what the U.N. Secretary-General said in his report:

"51. On 26, 28 and 30 October, the Special Representative and members of his staff visited refugee camps and villages where Turkish Cypriots had taken refuge during and after the events of December 1963. As a result of the visits, the Special Representative felt that the 3,000 persons in tents at Mamit Mandres, just north of Nicosia and many of the 800 refugees in Kokkina who had made their homes in caves or holes in the hillside were in need of relief in the form of basic foodstuffs and clothing. Their conditions presented a health hazard in the approaching winter. The Special Representative therefore appealed to President Makarios, in a letter of 30 October 1964, to grant permission for a Red Crescent shipment to enter duty-free, without prejudice to the Government's position on supplies from foreign sources."

In his Report No. S/7001, of 10 December, 1965, the U.N. Secretary-General refers to the unsuccessful endeavours to save the refugees from spending a third winter in poor, uncomfortable, unhygienic and crowded conditions. This is what the Secretary-General had to say on this humanitarian subject in paragraphs 161 and 162 of that Report:

/...

"161. In September, 1965, the Turkish Cypriot leadership drew UNFICYP's attention to the general question of housing for refugees in a letter addressed to my Special Representative dated 18 September 1965, the Acting President of the Turkish Communal Chamber stated that, in an endeavour to save the refugees from spending a third winter in poor, uncomfortable, unhygienic and often crowded shelters of all kinds, a building scheme had been prepared for providing the refugee families with improved accommodations in the area where they were now living, and that a great part of the materials for the scheme would be provided by the Turkish Government. However, as building materials were denied to the Turkish Cypriots, the good offices of UNFICYP were requested with a view to the lifting of the ban imposed by the (Greek Cypriot) Government of Cyprus on the shipment of such materials. The Acting President of the Turkish Communal Chamber added that UNFICYP supervision would be accepted in order to ensure that the building materials required for the housing scheme would be used solely for the purpose for which they were intended.

"162. The question of supplying the Turkish Cypriots with building materials for improving the accommodations of the refugees has repeatedly been taken up by UNFICYP with the highest (Greek Cypriot) authorities of the Republic, both as part of the general problem of the maintenance, repair and construction of houses and buildings in Turkish Cypriot areas and as a separate and special problem. Whatever the approach to the problem, the (Greek Cypriot) Government has not approved the release of building materials for the refugees..."

For eleven years all efforts to rehabilitate the refugees in their homes and villages were frustrated by the obstructionist policy followed by the Greek side which clearly indicated that it would not agree to the return of the refugees to their villages before a final settlement. It even hindered the U.N. from taking a more active role in the re-settlement of the Turkish refugees. The following extracts from the reports of the U.N. Secretary-General in 1972 and 1973 record the lack of progress and frustration felt regarding the re-settlement of the Turkish Cypriot refugees:

"48. No progress has been made towards solving the general problem of Turkish Cypriot displaced persons. The request for re-settlement of the Turkish Cypriot village of Vroisha in Lefka district... has been rejected by the (Greek Cypriot) Government on the basis that it would be economically unsound for the villagers. This has led the Turkish Cypriot leadership to request relocation of the village and, at the time of writing, the matter is still under consideration by the (Greek Cypriot) Government..."

(S/10842 December 1972)

"67. Practically no progress has been made during the period under review towards a solution of the problem of the Turkish Cypriot displaced persons (S/10842, paragraph 48). There have been no negotiations on the general question for two years, but from time to time efforts are made to resettle abandoned villages..."

(S/10940, May 1973)

The following three extracts from the Greek Cypriot press in 1969 and 1973 are clear admissions by the Greek Cypriots of their obstructionist policy regarding the re-settlement of the Turkish Cypriot refugees:

- a) "We do not accept the absurd wishes of the Turks. As long as the Cyprus problem remains unsolved, we shall never accept the re-settlement of the Turks in Omorphita."

(From a statement of Greek Mukhtar of Trachona and Neapolis, published in "Deleftea Ora" on July 1969)

- b) "As it is known, Turks want to use the mosque and the Elementary School of Omorphita. Functioning of these two institutions will mean that the Turks will return to this area. That must be prevented."

(From "Gnomi" of 15 June 1973)

- c) "Omorphita has been conquered by Greek arms; conquered lands can never be returned!"

(From "Makhi" of 17 June 1973)

/...

And I should like to end this reply with a touching letter from a Turkish Cypriot pupil to the then Ambassador of German Democratic Republic in Cyprus dated 25 December 1976:

"His Excellency the Ambassador
German Democratic Republic
Nicosia

Dear Ambassador,

We are very touched when we saw your picture in the Cyprus Mail handing out gift parcels to Greek refugee children.

I was four years old when I had to flee with my parents from Omorphita area together with 6000 other Turks. A few days later it was Christmas of 1963 and then we saw the New Year of 1964 through our rain-drenched tents. No one brought us presents although we lived under these conditions all through our (Moslem) Bairams, and your (Christian) Christmases and New Years during 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973 and 1974...

Today I am 17 and I am still waiting for our houses in Omorphita to be repaired. For all these years the Greek Cypriot administration would not allow us to return to Omorphita. So, time added its own destructive element to what the Greek Cypriots had wantonly destroyed.

I don't think anyone of you diplomats even know where Omorphita is. It is a suburb of Nicosia and for 11 years we lived 2 miles away from our homes unable to return to them because the Greek Cypriot authorities would not allow us to do so...

Yes, Your Excellency, 11 years we lived under these conditions and we received not a single parcel, not a smile from diplomats in Cyprus because, I suppose, they were accredited to Makarios who was the leader trying to destroy us while managing to make the world forget that we existed in Cyprus.

This letter is neither recrimination
nor a plea for gift parcels or even
for your smiles! It is just a statement
of fact!...

Yours respectfully,

(Levent Hasan Ruso) "

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated
as a document of the General Assembly, under items 29 and 31
of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of
my highest consideration.



Nail Atalay
Representative of the
Turkish Republic of
Northern Cyprus
