



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/41/152
S/17804
7 February 1986

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-first session
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY
AND CO-OPERATION IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN REGION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-first year

Letter dated 7 February 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your urgent attention to the serious situation created by the recent statements of Mr. Denktash, leader of the Turkish Cypriot community, made in connection to the new Lefkoniko "airport" as well as the new "port" of Kyrenia and their respective use by Turkey.

According to reports published in Turkish Cypriot newspapers on 5 February 1986, Mr. Denktash said that "Military aircraft and vessels belonging to the armed forces of Turkey will continue to utilize, without any restrictions, the 'airports' and 'ports' of the 'TRNC', a practice followed up to now". He further stated, "consequently, the matter of the use of the air and sea space of the 'TRNC' by military aircraft and vessels of the armed forces of Turkey is of no concern to the Greek Cypriots or to any other foreigners! ... These activities are the natural outcome of the co-operation between Turkey and the 'TRNC' and relate to matters of security and defense ... Such activities are taking place within the 'sovereign rights' of the 'TRNC'."

Furthermore, the illegal "Bayrak" station broadcast on 4 February 1986 the following statement of Mr. Denktash: "The Turkish sea, land and air forces will be using, as has been the case so far, the available infrastructure of the 'TRNC' for the sake of defending peace. ... This is directly related to Turkey's guarantorship". Referring to the increased military activities of Turkey, the Lefkoniko "airport" and the new "port" of Kyrenia, under construction, Mr. Denktash said that "the ships and planes of the Turkish armed forces will be using, in accordance with their duties, the 'ports' and 'airports' of the 'TRNC', without limitations".

As is well known, the \$US 500 million "airport" has been constructed by a Turkish firm ("Fahrettin Onen Co."), on the edge of the farming village of Lefkoniko, in the Turkish occupied areas of the Republic of Cyprus. On the other hand, the new Kyrenia "port" - which is totally financed by Turkey - will be completed in 1986 and it is estimated to cost 5 billion Turkish liras.

According to Turkish Cypriot sources, the runway at the said "airport" is 3,180 metres long and 40 metres wide and can accommodate any type of aircraft, while the maximum depth of the Kyrenia "port" will be 8 metres and the quay will be 700 metres long, with a tonnage of 30,000. The so-called "Minister of Finance" of the self-proclaimed "TRNC" admitted after the approval of the "budget" last November that Turkey had undertaken all the expenses for the construction of the illegal Lefkoniko "airport" and the new Kyrenia "port". Despite several reports, both in the Turkish Cypriot press as well as in the foreign press, that the "airport" has been constructed for military purposes, the Turkish side has so far denied such reports and maintained that the Lefkoniko "airport" will be used solely for civil aviation.

The aforementioned statements of Mr. Denktash undoubtedly prove the sinister intentions which are behind the illegal construction of the military "airport" of Lefkoniko and the "port" of Kyrenia. It is now officially admitted by Mr. Denktash that the military presence of Turkey in the occupied part of the Republic of Cyprus is being increased and modernized. It is now made abundantly clear that the construction of such a big "airport" at Lefkoniko and of other military installations in the areas of Cyprus occupied by Turkey is connected with the aggressive purposes of Turkey in the region and aims at consolidating the illegal Turkish military presence in Cyprus. Mr. Denktash's statements also reveal, once again, the annexationist designs of the Turkish aggressor and Turkey's real intentions, aimed at placing Cyprus under its absolute political and military control.

Furthermore, the increased and modernized military presence of Turkey in the territory of the Republic of Cyprus seriously threatens the non-aligned status of Cyprus and endangers peace and security in the eastern Mediterranean. Statements such as the one of Mr. Atakol, self-styled "Foreign Minister of the 'TRNC'", in September 1985 that "the non-alignment of Cyprus has been defended and preserved by the Turkish side for over two decades now" seriously contradict the recent statement of Mr. Denktash and clearly reveal the hypocrisy and fallacy behind the Turkish positions.

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to strongly protest the above statements of Mr. Denktash as well as the illegal acts of the Government of Turkey perpetrated on Cypriot soil in violation of numerous Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. Furthermore, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that such intransigent positions, coupled with the continuing illegalities perpetrated by the Turkish aggressor, are taking place at a most sensitive stage of Your Excellency's initiative. They thus put in jeopardy your efforts for a just and viable solution to the Cyprus problem within the framework of the decisions and resolutions of the United Nations, a solution that would ensure the complete withdrawal of the Turkish occupation troops, restore the unity of the country and safeguard the basic rights and fundamental freedoms of the Cypriot people as a whole.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Question of Cyprus" and "Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Phedon PHEDONOS-VADET
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of
Cyprus to the United Nations
Deputy Permanent Representative
