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Letter dated 6 February 1979 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 refer to a letter from the Permanent Representative of Turkey, dated 22 January 1979 (A/34/67-S/13050), with an annex signed by Nail Atalay, who misrepresents himself as the "representative" of the so-called "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus" - a fictitious entity projected by Ankara for the obvious purpose of furthering its partitionist and annexationist designs against the Republic of Cyprus and whose purported setting-up was unanimously rejected by the United Nations membership and condemned by the Lima Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries (see A/10217 and Corr.1).

A careful study of the tapes of the Cyprus television programme, referred to in the aforementioned letter of the Permanent Representative of Turkey, clearly reveals that the authors of this communication have again grossly abused the truth. It is to be categorically stated that no statement even remotely resembling the allegations, attributed by the Turkish representative to the participants of this programme, was ever made. What was emphasized instead by the participants of this programme is that both Greek and Turkish Cypriots are equally suffering under the heel of the Turkish army of occupation and from activities, often criminal, of the thousands of alien colonists, who have been massively transported from mainland Turkey, in order to usurp the homes and lands of the expelled indigenous Cypriot population and thereby alter by force the age-long demographic composition of the island.

It is, furthermore, to be noted that the Director-General of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation, an autonomous corporation, described the Turkish allegations as totally unfounded, adding, at the same time, his readiness to place the tapes of the discussion at the disposal of anyone who wishes to know the truth.

Independently of the evident and costly abuse of the Secretariat's facilities in causing the circulation of documents emanating from a non-existent entity, I

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hardly need to point out that the aim of the representative of Turkey is but to deflect attention from the main issue, which is the international crime of the invasion and continuing military occupation, perpetrated by Turkey against the Republic of Cyprus in flagrant violation of international law and repeated unanimous and/or near-unanimous resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

As the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Spyros Kyprianou, repeatedly emphasized in his statements, the struggle of Cyprus is not directed against the Turkish Cypriots, but is clearly aimed at the termination of Ankara's aggression and military occupation of Cypriot territories.

It is, indeed, saddening to note that the Turkish side resorts to such a campaign of slander and distortion, while delicate efforts are being exerted by Your Excellency for a resumption of serious and productive negotiations. Undoubtedly, such actions, which come in sharp contrast to the sincere and positive attitude adopted by the Government of Cyprus towards the Secretary-General's efforts can only have a negative effect on the prospects for the resumption of fruitful intercommunal talks and raise serious doubts as to the existence of the necessary political will on the part of the Government of Turkey to embark upon a serious dialogue.

It should be a matter of grave concern to this Organization and more particularly to the Security Council, which has a manifest special responsibility towards Cyprus, that, instead of withdrawing its forces of occupation from Cyprus and allowing the refugees to return to their homes in safety, as demanded by the relevant United Nations resolutions, Ankara, through its army of occupation and its instruments in the occupied area, continues to sow discord and to cultivate hatred and division in the island.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Question of Cyprus", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Joseph J. STEPHANIDES
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.
