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Letter dated 14 February 1979 from the Permanent Representative of
Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 14 February 1979 addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, the representative of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

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) Orhan ERALP
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 14 February 1979 from Mr. Nail Atalay
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach herewith the original copy of a letter dated 29 January 1979 addressed to Your Excellency by His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

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) Nail ATALAY
Representative

APPENDIX

Letter dated 29 January 1979 from Mr. Rauf R. Denktas
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the speech by Mr. Spiros Kyprianou, the leader of the Greek Cypriot community, which was made on 19 January 1979 to a crowd of Greek Cypriots gathered at Eleftheria Square in the Greek sector of Nicosia on the occasion of the late Archbishop Makarios' name day.

Addressing the crowd before setting out at the head of the so-called "walk of love" in memory of the late Archbishop, Mr. Kyprianou is reported to have spoken of a "truly happy Cyprus" which Makarios "had managed to create between the day of independence and the coup," which, in his words, "preceded the invasion".

I wish to place on record in the most emphatic terms the Turkish Cypriot community's utter indignation at this insulting, chauvinistic and provocative statement of Mr. Kyprianou, which disregards completely and deliberately even the existence of the Turkish community in Cyprus, let alone its equal partnership rights in the Republic. Even the remotely initiated person with the Cyprus problem should be aware by now that the years to which Mr. Kyprianou refers in his speech correspond, in the long history of the problem, to a time when Turkish Cypriot rights were being usurped, violated and disregarded in a most flagrant manner, and Turkish Cypriots were suffering infernal punishment at the hands of the Greek Cypriots for having resisted enosis.

Starting with the Greek onslaught on the Turkish community in December 1963, 103 Turkish villages were completely or partially destroyed all over Cyprus, and about 30,000 Turkish Cypriots were made refugees. These people had to lead a refugee life in the ensuing 11 years until 1974. 1/

Two hundred and twelve Turkish Cypriots were abducted from the roads, from their work places and even from the hospitals by the Greek Cypriot so-called "security forces", never to be seen or heard from again. The then

1/ See Official Records of the Security Council, Nineteenth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1964, document S/5764, para. 93; ibid., Supplement for July, August and September 1964, document S/5950, para. 190; ibid., Supplement for October, November and December 1964, document S/6102, para. 51; ibid., Twentieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1965, document S/7001, paras. 161 and 162; ibid., Twenty-second Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1967, document S/8286, para. 126; ibid., Twenty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1972, document S/10842, para. 48; and ibid., Twenty-eighth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1973, document S/10940, para. 567.

United Nations Secretary-General's reports to the Security Council indicate that 212 Turkish Cypriots were missing during that period. 2/ The fate of these people is still unknown today.

In the village of Ayios Vassilios the murder of Turks had taken the form of a mass-massacre in which 13 Turkish Cypriots, including women, children and elderly people, were indiscriminately killed and buried in a mass-grave, as also evidenced by the foreign press (i.e. press report in the Daily Telegraph of 14 January 1964).

In the Omorphita suburb of Nicosia, some 900 Turkish Cypriots were taken hostage on the Christmas of 1963 and were used as a live "wall of defence" in attacking Kumsal, another suburb of Nicosia occupied by Turkish Cypriots. The area was plundered and the residents were wantonly murdered. A reporter of Le Figaro wrote the following, on 26 January 1964, regarding the onslaught on the Kumsal suburb: "I have seen in a bathtub the bodies of a mother and of her three young children murdered just because their father was a Turkish officer ..."

All constitutional rights of the Turkish Cypriots were usurped by force of arms and the constitutional court itself was abolished. Turks were declared "rebels", thus giving the "right" to every armed Greek Cypriot to hunt them down. Within a month of the onslaught of 21 December 1963, hundreds of Turkish Cypriots were killed, wounded or maimed. Turkish areas of the island were kept under siege with a view to starving the residents to death so that they could no longer oppose the political will of the "Hellenes".

These assaults continued intermittently until 1968 against the Turkish Cypriot "enclaves" scattered around the island, despite the presence of a 7,000 strong United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus. In the 1967 attack against the Turkish villages of Kophinou and Ayios Theodoros, for instance, 29 Turks were killed within a matter of five to six hours.

Administratively, Turkish Cypriots, the legitimate and constitutional co-founder partners of the Republic of Cyprus, were expelled from the machinery of the bi-communal Government, simultaneously with the commencement of the armed attacks in 1963. Henceforth, all rights in the political, social, economic and religious spheres, were denied to the Turkish Cypriots. Even the annual allocation in the Republic's budget for the education of Turkish Cypriot children was withheld alongside all the other budgetary dues of the Turkish Cypriots. Schools, mosques and holy places were plundered and destroyed in respect of 103 villages.

2/ Ibid., Twentieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1965, document S/6228, para. 117; ibid., Twenty-first Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1966, document S/7350, para. 76.

This is the true picture of the "happy Cyprus" between 1963 and 1974, which Mr. Kyprianou is vainly attempting to paint!

While this grim state of affairs was continuing, the Greek Cypriot leaders, including Mr. Kyprianou, were declaring openly that the aim was enosis, in a Machiavellian belief that the end justified the means. A few examples illustrating the enosis aim of the Greek Cypriot leaders would now be pertinent:

"We declare once again that the Parthenon is the final goal of our struggle and we shall reach that goal irrespective of the obstacles we may encounter."

(Extract from a speech by Archbishop Makarios at Yeroskibos village on 6 March 1964)

"The Greek Cypriots and the entire Greek nation are struggling so that this great island of Cyprus will be united with Greece. Long live the Nation, long live the King, long live the Army, long live enosis."

(Extract from Archbishop Makarios' address to arriving Greek mainland troops on 9 April 1966)

"The struggle of Cyprus is the struggle of Hellenism as a whole. Another prerequisite for the success of the struggle is complete unity between Greece and Cyprus."

(Extract from a speech by Mr. Spiros Kyprianou on the anniversary of Greek independence day on 24 March 1971)

It is apparent that Mr. Kyprianou, in his reference to the fictitious "happy years" in Cyprus, equates the happiness of the Greek Cypriot community with the happiness of the whole of Cyprus, in total disregard of the existence of the Turkish community in the island and the gross violation of its rights by the Greek Cypriots in the manner described above. I need hardly repeat here that this attitude is the epitome of chauvinism and selfishness, and that this distortion of realities is an utter insult to intelligence.

Mr. Kyprianou can only be so unchristian as to dismiss the agony of his Turkish Cypriot neighbours between 1963 and 1974! He can only have so little conscience as to see nothing wrong in building the happiness of his own community on the suffering of others! And he can only have so little wisdom as not to realize that this is why their artificial and immoral happiness finally collapsed!

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I wish to point out to Mr. Kyprianou that his distorted reference to the past and his obvious desire to revive it are neither realistic nor compatible with goodwill in the search for a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem. I therefore call upon him to abandon his present hostile, unrealistic and intransigent attitude and return to reason, so that Cyprus can acquire true and universal happiness, Turk and Greek alike.

(Signed) Rauf R. DENKTAŞ
President of the
Turkish Federated State of Cyprus
