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SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 16 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 16 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 item 21 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Orhan ERALP
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/34/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 16 February 1979 from Mr. Nail Atalay
to the Secretary-General

In response to Mr. Joseph Stephanides' letter of 9 February 1979 (A/34/80-S/13076) addressed to Your Excellency and to the members of the Security Council, I can but repeat an old adage: "A fine quotation is a diamond on the finger of a wise man's wit and a pebble in the hand of a fool". Mr. Stephanides' quotation from an article in the Special News Bulletin was definitely a pebble, for by being taken out of context it was shorn of all meaning. If any threat was implied in the original article, it was the threat of David against Goliath, of the anvil against the hammer. The Turkish Cypriots merely want to live in peace after the long nightmare of Greek Cypriot oppression, and they are much too busy nursing their wounds and trying to make a living even to contemplate the thought of revenge or aggression.

In a recent article, published on 7 February 1979, in the newspaper Makhi, a Greek Cypriot daily, one finds the following statement:

"... Naturally we were not expecting a different kind of attitude. But let us not forget that all dogs are of the same species. There are house dogs, bull-dogs, bed dogs, retriever dogs, etc. ... Despite difference in breeds, dogs cannot escape being dogs. No matter how much you wash them; no matter how much you take care of them, they are still dogs! Turks are the same. Because, you wash them, you clean them but they still smell as dogs. Turkish Cypriots are the same ..."

Your Excellency, I would not like to descend to the level of those Greek Cypriots who unashamedly insult my people. I am sure you will be the best judge in this matter.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 21 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nail ATALAY
Representative
