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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 16 June 1981 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 June 1981 addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, the representative of the Turkish Federated State of Kibris.

I would be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the **General** Assembly, under item 35 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. Coskun KIRCA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/36/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 16 June 1981 from Mr. Nail Atalay to the Secretary-General

The latest example of the Greek Cypriot community's expedient disregard of international treaties and agreements - the denial of the existence of the population exchange agreement of 1975 - warrants an appropriate response from the Turkish community of Cyprus. Such a response is demanded by the facts and required by the rights of the Turkish Cypriot community which, as a partner in the agreement, is automatically the victim of its transgression. Indeed, it is imperative that there be an end to the Greek Cypriot habit of disregarding, seemingly with impunity, solemn agreements and the principles of international conduct, commencing with that of pacta sunt servanda.

On 2 August 1975, the representatives of the Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities, Mr. Denktas and Mr. Clerides respectively, reached an agreement in Vienna, under Your Excellency's personal auspices on the orderly exchange of their populations in the island. The text of this 5-point agreement was published in an official communiqué to the press (CYP/867 of 4 August 1975) and appeared in the Security Council document S/11789 of 5 August 1975. The text of this agreement is quoted in full below:

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"...In addition the following was agreed:

1. The Turkish Cypriots at present in the south of the island will be allowed, if they want to do so, to proceed north with their belongings under an organized programme and with the assistance of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus.

2. Mr. Denktas reaffirmed, and it was agreed, that the Greek Cypriots at present in the north of the island are free to stay and that they will be given every help to lead a normal life, including facilities for education and for the practice of their religion, as well as medical care by their own doctors and freedom of movement in the north.

3. The Greek Cypriots at present in the north who, at their own request and without having been subjected to any kind of pressure, wish to move to the south, will be permitted to do so.

4. The United Nations will have free and normal access to Greek Cypriot villages and habitations in the north.

5. In connexion with the implementation of the above agreements, priority will be given to the reunification of families, which may also involve the transfer of a number of Greek Cypriots, at present in the south, to the north."

Your Excellency reported on the implementation of this agreement in paragraphs 3 and 4 of your report to the Security Council contained in document S/11789/Add.2 of 13 September 1975.

As recently as January 1981, Mr. Clerides, who concluded the population exchange agreement with H.E. Mr. Denktas back in 1975 and is now the principal opposition leader in the Greek Cypriot sector, confirmed, as reported in the Northern Weekly Mail on 14 January 1981, that (in 1975) "he accepted this (agreement) in view of the decision of the Greek Cypriot Council of Ministers that he should do so."

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These, briefly, are the facts concerning the existence of the population exchange agreement of 1975 and its subsequent implementation.

In flagrant contradiction of these facts, however, the leaders of the Greek Cypriot community have sought to deny and reject the existence of the population exchange agreement; most recently they have done this publicly and in open defiance of world opinion. **Examples of various public statements by Greek Cypriot leaders to this effect are listed in the appendix. Even a glance at these statements** points to the irreconcilable contradiction between the facts of the 1975 agreement on the one hand and the claims of the Greek Cypriot leadership on the other.

The sacrifice of principle to expediency which marks the behavior of the Greek Cypriot leadership unfortunately is not limited to the status of the 1975 agreement on population exchange alone. It will be recalled that, beginning in December 1963, the Greek Cypriot leadership has violated, repeatedly and in various ways, those international treaties and agreements which brought the state of Cyprus into being.

The Greek Cypriot leaders apparently see no virtue in consistency. They confirm, deny, reject, abrogate or ignore the existence of agreements to which their community is a party; or they attempt to modify, amend or to only partially implement such agreements; or they resort to any combination of these behaviours, depending on the circumstances and expediency of the moment, if and when they deem it to be in their interest.

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Needless to say, the course taken by the Greek Cypriot leaders is highly dangerous. It does not engender confidence in their reliability.

At a time when intercommunal negotiations are continuing on the island and there are high hopes of concrete progress through these negotiations toward a just and lasting solution to the problem of Cyprus after the elections in both sectors of the island, is the Turkish community not justified in asking itself - and the world: "If the Greek Cypriot leaders persist in such behaviour toward solemn agreements, how much reliance should we place on their seriousness and earnestness in these negotiations and how much can we expect them to respect any agreement that might be reached?"

Nevertheless, I want to reassure Your Excellency that the Turkish Cypriot side is determined to continue to search for a peaceful solution through the only available means of the intercommunal talks.

I would be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 35 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.



Nail Atalay
Representative of the
Turkish Federated State
of Kibris

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APPENDIX

13 August 1980

Excerpt from Mr. Tsimon's letter to the Secretary-General, Mr. Waldheim, published in the Greek Cypriot daily, Cyprus Mail:

"...President Kyprianou at his press conference said that no such agreement (exchange of population) exists..."

7 March 1981

Part of a statement made by the spokesman of the Greek Cypriot Administration, as reported in the Greek Cypriot daily, Cyprus Mail:

"...The Cyprus Government has categorically denied that there has not been any agreement with the Turkish Cypriot side for an exchange of population.

"The spokesman described as 'astonishing' Mr. Denktas' insistence that in 1975 an exchange of population agreement was made.

" 'We challenge Mr. Denktas to clarify this statement and say when such an agreement was made, with whom and what its contents were' the spokesman said.

"Our side the spokesman added has not made an exchange of population agreement nor does such an agreement exist for the Government, he stated."

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20 April 1981

Excerpt from a speech given by Mr. Kyprianou on 19 April 1981 in the village of Lemythou, as reported in Greek Cypriot daily, Demokratia:

"...I should like to dwell on the statement of Mr. Denktas concerning the population exchange. I deny the allegations by Mr. Denktas as to the existence of an agreement on population exchange. If Mr. Denktas refers to the agreement reached at the third round of talks in Vienna, then he who must answer Mr. Denktas on this must be the one who signed this agreement with him. In any case, we will never accept the interpretation of that (Vienna) agreement as an agreement on population exchange."

21 April 1981

Excerpt from a speech given by Mr. Kyprianou at Lemythou village as appeared in the Greek Cypriot daily, Cyprus Mail:

"...About the exchange of population claim by Mr. Denktas the President said 'the Vienna agreement cannot be interpreted as an exchange of population...'"

10 May 1981

Excerpt from an interview given by Mr. Rolandis to the Greek Cypriot daily, Elephtheri Kypros:

"...This (population exchange) has never happened and we will never accept it, too. We reject the words of Mr. Denktas."
