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SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-third year

Letter dated 16 May 1978 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 May 1978 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 28 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ilter TURKMEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/33/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Letter dated 16 May 1978 from Mr. Nail Atalay to the
Secretary-General

I am sure you will appreciate that the resumption of the intercommunal talks needs a calm atmosphere, forbearance and the good intentions of the parties concerned. It is a matter of regret that the Greek Cypriot leadership is doing its utmost in order to destroy all chances of reconciliation, as a matter of preconceived policy.

The daily output of anti-Turkish propaganda in the Greek press, on the radio and television and provocative statements by the Greek Cypriot leaders have reached a climax, especially after the decision of the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate in favour of continuing the arms embargo on Turkey.

One indication of this came in the remarks made by Mr. Rolandis, the Greek Cypriot Foreign Minister, who, in addressing a Lions Club luncheon at Larnaca on 12 May 1978, described the Turkish-Cypriot proposals as "not even being worthy of throwing into a waste basket".

On the other hand, the Speaker of the Greek Cypriot House of Representatives, in a message on the occasion of Mother's Day, is reported to have said: "There can be no solution, no workable solution but the creation of a unitary State." This statement is in direct contradiction to the agreement reached between President Denktas and the late Archbishop Makarios, which took place in your presence on 12 February 1977, that a solution to the Cyprus question could be found within the framework of "a bi-communal, federal State".

Your Excellency will agree that the Greek Cypriot side must realize there is no correlation between the question of Cyprus and Turkish American relations. This was eloquently stated in an editorial in The New York Times of 12 May 1978:

"Some three weeks have passed since the Turkish Cypriot Community submitted new proposals for resolving the Cyprus problem. But the Greek Cypriots refused to come to the table to discuss them. The impression spreads that the Greeks are counting on the partial embargo on American arms shipments to Turkey to induce a still better offer. They should be dissuaded from any such calculations.

"... There is a basis for negotiation in the Turkish plan and, if the Greek Cypriots persist in refusing to take it seriously, Congress should lift the embargo, as the Carter Administration has already requested."

The editorial further states that:

"The Turkish Cypriots say that everything about their proposal is

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negotiable. But it is unlikely that they can be moved very far from the outlines of their proposed constitution. Nor should they be. There is no reason, however, why they should not be pressed to yield more territory. The Greek Cypriots will never know how much more until they engage the Turks in serious discussions. Those discussions should proceed, and if the American embargo now gets in the way, it should be removed."

The Times of London, in an editorial on 8 May 1978, also expressed the same opinion when it stated that:

"A better strategy for the Greek Cypriots would be to return to the table and see what Turkish policies of flexibility are worth in practice."

Furthermore, The Washington Post of 13 May 1978, in an editorial, underlined that "the proposals /Turkish Cypriot/ remain available as a respectable basis for negotiations".

In view of all those and other comments in the world press and statements of world statesmen, the intransigent attitude and the violent reaction of Greek Cypriot leaders against anything which comes from the Turkish side should be a cause for common concern to all those who expect the continuation of the intercommunal talks on an equal footing between the Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities under your auspices.

Under these conditions, the stance of Greek Cypriots leaves no room for optimism and confirms, in unequivocal terms, their determination to continue the struggle for Hellenization of Cyprus (Enosis) irrespective of the bloodshed, misery and catastrophe it has brought to the island for more than a quarter of a century.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 28 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nail ATALAY
Representative
