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LETTER DATED 30 MARCH 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CYPRUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL

Turkey's recent activities to establish a military base on territory of the Republic, as though it had been annexed to Turkey, rendered manifest its possessory moves over such territory and were the subject of my protest to the Secretary-General (S/12014) of 16 March 1976. The protest also referred to the illegal and inhuman expulsion of the remaining Greek Cypriots from their homes and lands in the area, including all Turkish Cypriots, in a striking unconcern even for the latter's suffering.

Responsibility for reply obviously lay on Ankara. Yet its representative to the United Nations, presumably in an effort to evade such responsibility, circulated a letter (S/12015 of 18 March 1976) signed by the representative of a self-styled "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus", whereas it is well known that there is no federation in Cyprus, and no such federated State is recognized or in existence at all. That phantom State, in its reference to an 18 per cent ethnic minority, is put forward by way of covering up Turkey's aggressive occupation of 40 per cent of the territory of Cyprus. Ironically, it is moreover represented as having "control and jurisdiction" over the invaded area, although it is common knowledge that a Turkish Cypriot leadership exists and acts only on the directions of Ankara, from whom they openly take all their instructions.

It has been amply demonstrated that the real interests of the Turkish Cypriots, individually and collectively as an entity, are of little concern to that ruling set up, whose main target has been to promote division and strife, with partition in prospect.

What the present projection of a so-called "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus" vividly, though tragically, recalls is the unprecedented international crime of invasion against a small non-aligned Member State of the United Nations, the wholesale expulsion of the indigenous majority people from their homes and lands in the invaded area, and its racial colonization by massive population currently transported from Turkey. All this in flagrant violation of unanimous resolutions on Cyprus by the General Assembly and Security Council.

Such contemptuous defiance of basic principles of international law and the Charter, and even of elementary standards of civilized international conduct, remaining in effect unremedied, has no parallel in the history of the United Nations

and even before it. An analogous situation of aggressive occupation of a small country was not long tolerated by the international community and led to the Second World War.

In the present times, because of the advent of the nuclear weapon, there cannot be world wars. But, situations of such rampant aggression and anarchy cannot be allowed to prevail. Furthermore, a most dangerous precedent will be set, with all engulfing consequences and repercussions. The remedy lies in providing for basic collective security through the due implementation of the Charter of the United Nations, a matter which has become an imperative call.

The victims in this case may be only the people of Cyprus, of whatever origin, whose inherent attachment to their homeland is common and inseparable, and whose legitimate rights and interests to preserve its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, are being sacrificed in the service of alien aims and purposes. But the issue is far wider, for those aims and purposes are in themselves negative and destructive to the moral fibre and the essential structure of a world community so manifestly interdependent in our days.

The sense of common interests between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots as the rightful inhabitants of this island more clearly emerged since the foreign invasion. Many are the instances reported of such feelings of solidarity, despite all ruthless military measures for their suppression.

In his report, Mr. Kenneth Ziebel, Executive Secretary of the World Council of Churches, on a visiting mission to Cyprus after the invasion, writes the following:

"Numerous incidents are related in which Turkish-Cypriots aided Greek-Cypriots against the Turkish invaders or even, incredibly enough, in which Turkish-Cypriots sought the help of Greek-Cypriot friends for protection of themselves from the Turkish invaders."

The good spirit of friendliness and solidarity is not lacking in the Cypriot people, Greek and Turkish alike. It is ever alive and can at any moment flower, when not deliberately and tyrannically frustrated from outside.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Zenon ROSSIDES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations
