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LETTER DATED 1 APRIL 1976 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 31 March 1976, addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, Acting Representative of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ilder TÜRKMEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annexes

LETTER DATED 31 MARCH 1976 FROM MR. NAIL ATALAY ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 26 March 1976, addressed to you by H.E. Mr. Rauf R. Denktas, President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nail ATALAY
Acting Representative of the
Turkish Federated State of Cyprus

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LETTER DATED 26 MARCH 1976 FROM MR. RAUF DENKTAS ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The letter of the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, Mr. Zenon Rossides, dated 16 March 1976 and circulated as document S/12014 of the Security Council, has recently been brought to my attention.

With reference to its contents, I would like to state categorically that we utterly reject the allegation that Turkey is preparing for the construction of a military air base near Kyrenia (in the areas of Ayios Epiktitos, Karakoumi, Kazaphani and Klepini). We also refute the allegations by Mr. Rossides to the effect that Greek Cypriots are forcefully evicted from the above-mentioned areas. On the contrary, Greek Cypriots who reside in the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus are transferred to the south either on their own written request or on the request of UNFICYP on their behalf. The re-settlers in these houses are not "colonialists" from Turkey, as alleged, but Turkish Cypriot refugees who fled from Greek oppression in the south to safety in the north, as well as Turkish Cypriots who had emigrated in their thousands to various parts of the world in the face of an unbearable dimension of economic and social discrimination by Greek Cypriots in the past and are now returning home.

Blatant distortion of truth reflected in the inventory of slanderous Greek Cypriot accusations can in no way discredit the legitimate and justified intervention of Turkey in Cyprus. This intervention was carried out under international agreements in order to save the Turkish community from complete annihilation and to safeguard the independence of the island, that independence which Archbishop Makarios has been trying to destroy for the last 12 years. Resort to malicious propaganda can in no way hide the 12-year-old barbarism, tyranny and oppression which has been inflicted upon the Turkish community of Cyprus by the Greek Cypriots and its leadership. Neither can it conceal the expansionist, colonial ambition of Greece embodied in the struggle for enosis (union of Cyprus with Greece), which culminated in the tragic events of 1963, 1967 and 1974. The Greek Cypriot leadership as well as the Government of Greece have not yet denounced enosis. Neo-colonization of Cyprus by Greece still remains a "supreme national goal of Hellenism".

We deplore very much that at a time when the intercommunal talks are reactivated, the Greek Cypriot leadership, presenting itself as the so-called "Government of Cyprus", a "government" which does not exist in law or in fact, still maintains its intransigent attitude and resorts to political propaganda which cannot but undermine prospects for a negotiated settlement.

I shall be grateful if this letter is circulated as a document of the Security Council.

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