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LETTER DATED 7 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 7 April 1976, addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, Acting Representative of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

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

(Signed) Ilder TÜRKMEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 7 April 1976 from Mr. Nail Atalay addressed to
the Secretary-General

Following is the unofficial translation of the text of a statement given by Mr. Glafcos Clerides, the Greek Cypriot negotiator, to the Greek Cypriot Broadcasting Station and TV in Nicosia at 1800 hours (local time) on Tuesday, 6 April.

"At the fifth round of the intercommunal talks which were held in Vienna from 17 to 21 February 1976, Mr. Denktas insisted that, since it had been agreed in Brussels that discussion of the territorial problem would be given priority and that the Greek side would be the first to submit its proposals on it, the Greek Cypriot proposals should be given to the Turkish side first, through the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative in Cyprus, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar.

"In the circumstances, with a view to depriving the Turkish Cypriot side of any pretext for not submitting comprehensive and concrete proposals, I agreed that the Greek Cypriot side should be the first to submit its proposals within a period of six weeks.

"I also took into consideration that, if I acted otherwise, a deadlock would be created on a procedural matter, which would prove detrimental to the Greek Cypriot side, would allow the creation of new faits-accomplis by the Turkish side and would prevent the carrying out of talks on serious humanitarian issues.

"As it was a confidential arrangement, I did not disclose it to anybody at the time or later, and I accept full responsibility for the manner in which I handled the whole matter."

The above statement is self-explanatory as it definitely clarifies the recent discussion on the nature of the accord arrived at in Vienna. It also shows, unfortunately, the difficulties encountered by the Turkish Cypriot community in the intercommunal talks, revealing the incomprehensible attitude of the representation of the Greek Cypriot side, their insistence in denying until the last moment the procedures to which they have completely agreed, their inadmissible tactics to twist the facts and their inability to come forward with a consistent, good-willed and reasonable approach to reach a solution.

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

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