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ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL
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SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-first year

Letter dated 15 July 1976 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to a letter by the representative of Turkey dated 28 May 1976 (A/31/97) attaching as appendix a document by Mr. Denktash purporting to be a reply and circulated as a document of the General Assembly at its thirty-first session.

This document, however, does not even attempt to give an answer to the plain facts stated in my said letter. They refer to international crimes perpetrated in the occupied area of Cyprus by the foreign invader in a series of violations covering the whole range of basic human rights enumerated in that letter. For these charges responsibility for reply lies squarely on the invader, Turkey.

We fully understand the difficulties of Mr. Denktash and his inability to give an answer to those charges. Unenviable is the task of trying to justify so grave an international issue of aggression as that against Cyprus and its people, in disregard of all concepts of international legality in a civilized society. As to the responsible party, Ankara, the silence of its representative is eloquent enough.

The burning and grave problem now is the still continuing acts of aggression against Cyprus by Turkey.

The ongoing expulsion of the remaining indigenous Greek Cypriot people from the north through the insidious practice of terror, and of constant threats to life is a means of forcing them to abandon their homes and properties and seek refuge in the south thus joining the camps of destitute refugees. Examples of the cruel harassments involved are given in my letter of 13 July 1976 (S/12142). They are characteristic of the unthinkable depths of inhumanity to which the invader's

* A/31/50.

occupying forces have sunk, assisted in this work by the crude criminality of colonizers imported from Turkey.

It might also be recalled that all these actions in the north violate the commitments in the Vienna Agreement of 2 August 1975, as shown in the reports of the Secretary-General of 5 August 1975 (S/11789) and of 8 December 1975 (S/11900), which specifically provide for the safety and normal life of the remaining Greek Cypriots in the north. Ankara's reneging on this agreement is one more evidence of its bad faith in the talks, for it uses them as a pretence of peaceful negotiations to mislead world opinion, and divert attention from its illegal attempts to change the demographic structure of the island.

Mr. Denktash understandably bypasses all these aspects and dwells on the constitutional problem, as though everything else was normal, by trying to show that bizonal federation is the only solution.

I would in this respect refer him to the eminent constitutional authority Lord Radcliffe who, in his report on Cyprus, categorically declared that neither partition nor federation is in any way applicable to the island, for a number of reasons not the least of which is the fact that there is no natural pattern of territorial separation. Also that any movement of population would be both inhuman and impractical in its economic effects.

Does Mr. Denktash believe that Turkey by its armed invasion and acts of aggression in Cyprus has magically created the necessary pre-conditions for federation and partition? Such kind of separation Lord Radcliffe's innocent mind could never have even conceived.

The present military rulers of Turkey and their spokesman Mr. Denktash will have to understand that situations which are the direct offspring of aggression and violence can produce no realities but international crimes. Such crimes constitute a stigma on mankind's present state of civilization. If allowed to persist, they could cause its ultimate destruction. No state or constitutional structure can possibly be built on crimes, nor, when the foundation is a criminally forced situation, can any just or at all workable solution be found.

On these burning issues, Mr. Denktash is silent. Instead, he continues to harp on the obsolete argument of enosis (by his own admission "outmoded") to which he is desperately struggling to impart the semblance of life to serve as a convenient argument.

In his diversionary tactics, Mr. Denktash evokes and re-evokes pretences of evil treatment of the Turkish Cypriot minority by the Government from 1964 to 1974. These allegations have been fully and unanswerably refuted by a series of quotations from the six monthly reports of the Secretary-General for the period in question, 1964 to 1974. They abundantly show that the human rights of the Turkish Cypriots were grossly violated by their own leadership directed from Ankara and by the TMT terrorist organization under the command of officers from Turkey, who

imposed upon them to be placed in enclaves. They were then deprived of their freedom of movement and for years constantly prevented from returning to their homes and properties although it was well known there was no problem of security, as the reports of the Secretary-General state.

These prohibitions of movement of the Turkish Cypriots by their leadership were, according to the reports, "dictated by a political purpose, namely, to reinforce the claim that the two main communities of Cyprus cannot live peacefully together in the island without some sort of geographical separation". 1/

The reports on the whole bear out the Government's contentions that "... the hardships suffered by the Turkish Cypriot population are the direct result of the leadership's self-isolation policy, imposed by force on the rank and file". 2/

These reports were quoted in extenso in the Security Council on 30 August 1974 (S/PV.1795), in the Special Political Committee on 20 October 1974 (A/SPC/PV.923), in the General Assembly on 19 November 1975 (A/PV.2411) and in my recent letter (E/5813), to which the document in question of Mr. Denktash is the purported reply.

The representatives of Turkey who participated in the meetings where the reports were produced did not dispute their accuracy or their obvious effects.

Why these inane repetitions of exploded charges? They are reminiscent of the repetitive tactics in the policy of the "big lie". They have, however, never proved to be of any avail.

We express the hope that the still persisting and outdated negativeness of force and domination, and all the devious ways employed in their service, will not continue for ever. And that respect for justice and moral values will eventually emerge and lead the world out of its present confusion and anarchy.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 68 of the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-first session, and of the Security Council.

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

1/ Official Records of the Security Council, Nineteenth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1964, document S/5764, para. 113.

2/ Ibid., Twentieth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1965, document S/6426, para. 106.