



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/12243
26 November 1976

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 26 NOVEMBER 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
CYPRUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency's attention the unthinkable inhuman practices of all kinds, causing great suffering, exercised on the enclaved Greek Cypriots in the occupied north of Cyprus by the Turkish occupation forces and imported Turks from Turkey, thus forcing them to abandon their ancestral homes and lands in order to accommodate the massive influx of imported mainland Turks in the calculated attempt to change the demographic composition of the island.

The conditions of horror, torture and continuous harassment and threats, which are now applied more effectively and intensively to the remaining indigenous Greek Cypriot inhabitants are disclosed in the reports dated 19, 23 and 25 October 1976, by the Head of Services on Humanitarian Matters, Mr. A. Matsoukaris, attached hereto as annexes I, II and III, respectively.

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

Annex I

Report dated 19 October 1976

In my report of 24 August 1976, I reported the attempted rape of the two daughters of Georgios Hadjinicolas Aspris, of Melanarga Village, by two Turks on the night of 11 July 1976, and the new methods employed by the Turks recently in an attempt to force enclaved Greek Cypriots to leave their homes and properties.

These new methods, applied against those refusing to sign "voluntary" applications for their transfer to the South, consist of threats, blackmail, thefts, robberies, sometimes with murders, attempted rapes and rapes of old women (see case of Lefcou Dimitri, 65, of Vathylakas who was raped unnaturally by a Turkish settler on 1 June 1976) or underaged girls (see case of Georgia Lyssandrou Foka, 13, of Ayia Trias who was raped in the presence of her father, sister and brothers on 3 October 1976). These methods have already been used successfully against Gastria, Neta, Kilanemos, Tavrou, Vathylakas and Eptaki villages, which have been vacated completely by their Greek inhabitants, and are currently used against Koma tou Yialou, Ayios Andronikos and Komi Kebir villages, which have begun to be vacated.

As a result of the incident against the two daughters of Georgios Hadjinicolas Aspris, 86 Greek inhabitants have already fled from Melanarga. The remaining 24 Greek inhabitants hoped that the situation in the village would improve and they would be able to stay but subsequent events have darkened all their hopes.

When the 86 Greek inhabitants of Melanarga left, Turks broke into the vacated houses and stole all movable property therein, leaving doors and windows open. Subsequently, Turkish Cypriot shepherds and other animal breeders from neighbouring villages came to Melanarga and used the houses to shelter their animals.

The Turks, however, were not happy with the fact that 24 more Greek Cypriots stayed in the village and began to apply cruel and inhuman methods to force them out as well.

Among the remaining 24 Greek inhabitants of Melanarga was the family of Sotiris Sergis, 74, a deaf and lame person, his wife Maria, 73, a sick person finding it hard to walk, and their daughter Tassoula, 33. The Sergis family lived in a remote house, which encouraged Turks from Ayios Symeon village to look upon the daughter as an easy prey and attempted to rape her on four different occasions as follows:

1. On Saturday, 28 August 1976 at about 6.30 p.m. Turks who have been identified as coming from Ayios Symeon village, went to Sergis' house and isolating Tassoula in a remote corner, attempted to rape her. She reacted violently and with the help of her old father managed to break loose and run away.

2. On the night of 31 August 1976 to 1 September 1976, at approximately 1 a.m., two young Turks, armed with revolvers and having their faces blackened, broke into the Sergis' house and made their way to Tassoula's bedroom.

They attacked Tassoula indecently in bed and tried to abduct and lead her outside the house, obviously with the intent to satisfy their brutal instincts at their ease. Tassoula struggled and managed to break loose, running to a neighbouring house for safety.

3. On Saturday, 4 September 1976, at approximately 10 p.m., an unknown Turk carrying a shotgun and having his face blackened violently broke into the Sergis' house and began to search the rooms for Tassoula, who had meanwhile managed to escape without being noticed.

The unknown man demanded from the parents the whereabouts of their daughter. They said they did not know and the man beat them up savagely and left them lying on the floor, running off towards Yialoussa.

Later that night, Tassoula went to Yialoussa Police Station in the company of her uncle, Pieris Sergis, and reported the case to the officer in charge, someone by the name of Mitat, who took down a statement from Tassoula and drove them back to Melanarga, promising that he would do everything to discover the culprits.

Following this incident, Tassoula left and went to live with relatives at Yialoussa, going back to her village only in the daytime.

From Friday, 17 September 1976, to Saturday, 18 September 1976, at approximately 1.45 a.m. three unknown Turks with blackened faces knocked at the door of the Sergis house and asked to be let in. Maris, his wife, shouted out to her husband loudly that there were thieves outside in order to alert the neighbours. The unknown men then broke into the house through the window and looked for Tassoula but could not find her. The nightcallers then left and went to the house of Georgios Spyrou, 72, inquiring after Tassoula. On finding out that Tassoula was not at Melanarga but at Yialoussa, they left.

As Tassoula knows English, she took the opportunity to visit the village of the ICRC representative on 18 September 1976, and reported to him the four attempts to rape her, showing him the damage caused to the door and windows of her house. The Turkish Liaison Officer who accompanied the ICRC representative immediately informed Sergeant Dervish of the Yialoussa Police Station about Tassoula's complaint to the ICRC representative, whereupon the Sergeant went to Melanarga on the same day, called the enclaved Greek Cypriots together and reprimanded them severely because, he said, they allowed false complaints to be made to the ICRC, adding that nobody had touched Tassoula.

In view of the above, Tassoula was made to submit an application for her transfer to the south, where she came on 14 October 1976. Though it is very difficult for any Cypriot woman to speak of attempts to rape her, Tassoula is

ready to make a statement on oath and to tell her drama and the drama of other
enclaved Greek Cypriots.

In this context, it is reported that Sergeant Dervish has in the last two
months been visiting Melanarga and pressing the remaining Greek Cypriot inhabitants
to sell their animals and go, threatening that if they do not do so of their own
free will he will send them away by force and saying "partition is here and all
Greek Cypriots will leave the Karpass within two months".

I do not think that I need to comment on these incidents which speak for
themselves.

Annex II

Report dated 23 October 1976

As I have reported in the past, the Turks have become experts in inventing and implementing measures against enclaved Greek Cypriots remaining in the North with a view to forcing them into signing "voluntary" applications to move South, leaving behind their houses and properties.

Herebelow are some examples of how the Turks are driving Greek Cypriots out of the North:

A. Bribery

To secure a permit to take their animals out for grazing or visit their fields, Greek Cypriot shepherds and farmers have to pay bribes either in kind or in cash. Those refusing or failing to pay generously are not served and are put into a lot of hardship and humiliation by being made to beg Turkish policemen for days on end. The Turkish police usually send them off, saying "come back tomorrow". This practice comes within the framework of indirect psychological pressure, hardship and humiliation and is intended to make enclaved Greek Cypriots give up and apply for transfer to the Government-controlled areas.

B. Marriage proposals to Greek Cypriot women

Early last August a mainland Turk, working at the Yialoussa Tobacco Treatment Factory, proposed through Sergeant Dervish, Officer-in-Charge of Yialoussa Police Station, to marry Irini Christodoulou Pontixi, 28, of Yialoussa. She turned down the proposal and to save herself of any hardship she was obliged to make an application and be transferred to the Government-controlled areas on 16 August 1976.

Early last September, Turkish army officer Djaffer Mehmet Kee (well known for his terrorist activity against enclaved Greek Cypriots), now living at Ayios Andronikos, called on the parents of Androulla Phani, 22, of Yialoussa, and proposed that their daughter should marry the Commander of Akradhes Turkish Military Camp because he said, "the Commander liked her very much". The proposal was turned down and the parents, to save their daughter of any trouble, applied and had her transferred to the Government-controlled areas on 29 September 1976.

Greek Cypriots are very sensitive to the questions of morality and honour and as the Turks are well aware of this, they are using proposals to marry as a means of intimidating both young Greek Cypriot women and their parents and obliging them to apply for their transfer south, in a bid to protect the name and honour of their families.

C. Firing for intimidating purposes

On top of other oppressive measures invented and applied by the Turks against enclaved Greek Cypriots, with a view to compelling them to leave, the practice of firing of guns in the night has recently been introduced for the terrorization of enclaved Greek Cypriots.

In some cases, shots are fired outside the houses of those Greek Cypriots who refuse to apply for transfer south or outside new houses which the Turkish Cypriots or mainland Turks plan to occupy once their Greek owners leave the area.

More precisely, from 18 September 1976 to 9 October 1976, shots were fired every two or three nights round and inside the Yialoussa village.

On 20 September 1976, bursts of automatic fire were heard inside Yialoussa village and as it became known the next day, the shots were fired by drunken Turkish policemen of Komi Kebir Police Station.

On the night of Monday, 11 October 1976, bursts of automatic fire, followed by two loud explosions that rocked the village, broke the window panes and threw open the doors and windows of some houses, were heard. Next day, Turkish policemen teasingly told the inhabitants that the explosions were due to an airplane crash near Yialoussa.

D. Peeping intimidation of young Greek Cypriots

Greek Cypriots recently transferred to the Government-controlled areas have made signed statements saying that Turkish soldiers and members of Yialoussa Police Station go round the streets at night and peep into houses through windows. This usually happens at the time people are getting undressed to go to bed, and affects houses where young Greek Cypriot women or young Greek Cypriot couples live. These people are very often terrified by noises made outside their bedrooms and have to stay up all night for fear that they may be assaulted, especially following the well-known incident in which a 13-year-old girl was raped at Ayia Trias village.

These practices are an indirect way of exercising psychological pressure and compelling enclaved Greek Cypriots to send their daughters to the Government-controlled areas to save their honour and dignity, while at the same time they show the standard of people the Turkish administration has assigned to keep law and order and protect the Greek Cypriots.

Annex III

Report dated 25 October 1976

Further to the matter of oppressive blackmailing and inhuman methods and other violent means used by the Turks against the Greek Cypriots who are still enclaved in the Turkish-held areas in order to compel them to sign "voluntary" applications and abandon their homes and properties.

These methods often surpass human imagination and show that we are justified in insisting that the Turks, with a view to achieving their object, which is to expel all enclaved Greek Cypriots, each time invent and apply new oppressive and inhuman methods, as can be inferred from the following:

1. On the night of 25 September 1976, Turkish settlers who had settled in Rizokarpasso village recently, hung ropes outside a number of selected houses in a way suggesting the idea of gallows.

This Turkish act was obviously aimed at intimidation and the abandonment of the houses by their owners, since that threat meant "either you go or we hang you".

"Gallows" were placed outside the houses of the following:

1. The village priest, Reverend Christos Papazacharias, aged 43
2. Stavrous Symeou, aged 65
3. Marcos Kourou, aged 54
4. Katelou Paphiti, aged 37 (her husband is in England)
5. Chrysostomos Chrysostomou, aged 60.

2. On the night of 6 September 1976, the Turkish settlers went round the houses of nearly all Greek Cypriots, owners of tractors and either destroyed their tires and the straps of fans, or removed certain parts, rendering them useless.

This organized action by the settlers against the owners of tractors shows once more the inhuman aims of the Turkish side which are to force all the Greeks to leave the Turkish-occupied areas through the continuous causing of hardships and intimidation.

The tractors which were damaged belonged to:

1. Andreas Koutas, aged 55
2. Kyriakos Koutas, aged 50
3. Demetrakis Athienitis, aged 55

4. Mitsaros Kountrouros, aged 60
5. Nicos Afxenti, aged 55
6. Varnavas Zacharia, aged 45
7. Kyriakos Malloupas, aged 65
8. Demetrakis Fiakas, aged 48
9. Christos Pehiris Xiouris, aged 67
10. Andreas Karkodas, aged 51
11. Antonis Mitsaros, aged 55
12. Zacharias Messiou, aged 38
13. Zacharias Papazachariou, aged 62.

3. In the afternoon of 13 October 1976, a Turkish settler named Halil, aged about 26, who had recently settled at Rizokarpasso, was drinking with others at the village tavern. Dimitris Christofi Kamilaris, aged 60, from Rizokarpasso happened to pass by the tavern. As soon as Halil saw him he went out into the street and began to punch him on the head without any provocation, breaking three of his teeth.

Kamilaris, taken by surprise, asked why he had been beaten and told Halil that he would report him to the Police. He then ran away in order to avoid further beating.

As soon as Kamilaris ran away, Halil entered a nearby coffee shop which only Greek Cypriot enclaved people frequented and with a big knife, which he had hidden in his socks, threatened to slaughter all the Greeks. Then all those present ran away full of terror.

In the evening of the same day, Kamilaris visited a relative of his and on his way back home, Halil assaulted him with a knife. Halil was hiding in the yard of Kamilaris' house.

Halil stabbed Kamilaris in the thigh and jaw. As a result of the stabbing, the knife broke and this saved Kamilaris' life.

Kamilaris cried aloud for help and his neighbours took him to the Yialoussa Medical Centre where he was given first aid.

Halil was arrested by the Police and after two days' detention in the Yialoussa Police Station was freed.

The reasons for Halil's unprovoked attack against Kamilaris have not become known. It is, however, rumoured that the cause was Kamilaris' warning to Halil's brother, aged 11, not to throw stones and not to trouble his two small dogs.

Afterwards it became known that Halil, before settling in Cyprus, was serving a five-year sentence in Turkey and was pardoned when he asked to come to Cyprus.

After this incident, Halil, facing the danger of being expelled to Turkey, approached Kamilaris and begged him to withdraw his complaint so that he may not be expelled.

The purpose of these incidents are so clear that no comment is needed.
