

UNITED NATIONS



GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



SECURITY
COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

A/34/221
S/13297
4 May 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-fourth session
Item 21 of the preliminary list*
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 4 May 1979 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 4 May 1979 addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, representative of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 21 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Orhan ERALP
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/34/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 4 May 1979 from Mr. Nail Atalay
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach herewith a letter dated 15 April 1979 addressed to Your Excellency by His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktas, President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 21 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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

/...

APPENDIX

Letter dated 15 April 1979 from Mr. Rauf R. Denktas
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the plurality of recent statements and speeches made by Greek and Greek Cypriot officials on the occasion of the independence day of Greece and the anniversary of the EOKA campaign, which has caused concern as well as dismay amongst the Turkish Cypriot community, at a time when intensive efforts are being made for the resumption of the intercommunal talks. In this context I wish to dwell, in particular, on a speech by Mr. Spyros Kyprianou, made in Limassol on 24 March 1979, and a message issued by the Greek Ambassador Mr. Dountas on 25 March 1979.

Emphasizing the oneness and the sameness of what is Greek and what is Greek Cypriot, Mr. Kyprianou stated, among other things, the following in his above-mentioned speech:

"... We have a historic duty to our national heritage and our history, to our heroes and the coming generations to struggle to the end, so as to hand down to future generations a Cyprus as we have taken it over from our forefathers ..."

As a variation on the same theme, Mr. Kyprianou went on further to state:

"We are tomorrow celebrating the 25 March anniversary and next Sunday we shall be celebrating the 1 April anniversary. The two dates are landmarks in the history of the Greek people. There have been many other landmarks and many heroes in our struggles. The meaning, however, is one, that is that the Greek people have been struggling from the start of their history until now and will continue to struggle. He who believes that the moment might come when the Greek people will not have to struggle has not grasped the true meaning of Hellenism ... Tonight I want to stress once again that there is nothing that can cause or justify any confusion between the status of the Cyprus State and our national status. The status of the State is one thing and our national status another. There can be no confusion ..."

Giving a perfect example of a chauvinism-laden speech, Mr. Kyprianou continued:

"... We are ready for an early solution, but at the same time we are also ready for a long struggle ... we may not be powerful, we may be numerically few, but we have the will and the faith to bring our mission to a conclusion. And it is faith that prompted Colocotronis to say that Greece's freedom was signed by God. It is faith in the power of justice that made the Greek people say no, back in 1940. It is faith in the power of

/...

justice that made the Greek Cypriot people rise on 1 April 1955 ... we do not know how much longer our struggle will last, but I wish to assure you that the Government, guided always by the national interest, will move in all directions to secure maximum international support which is essential to our struggle. I wish to assure you that we care about the people's daily problems, but uppermost in our minds is our national problem and national cause ... Let us in unity and fraternity do our duty to history, to those who have fallen fighting for Cyprus, to our great leader Makarios. Let us do our duty so as to vindicate the bloodshed, so that the trees of joy, happiness and freedom may spring up again all over Cyprus, over the graves of our heroic martyrs. I call upon all the people to remain united ... Remain faithful to the commands of our glorious history ..."

Echoing the same theme the Greek Ambassador, Mr. Dountas, expressed the following thoughts and sentiments in a special message he issued on 25 March 1979:

"It is because of our common social and national bonds that Greece has a national obligation to support Cyprus.

"If the Hellenes did not constitute the overwhelming majority in Cyprus, if they didn't have common social and national bonds with Greece, Greece would have no reason to have an interest in Cyprus.

"These are the reasons why Greece supports Cyprus. Greece cannot remain indifferent towards the future of this part and parcel of Hellenism.

"The only thing I fail to comprehend is the differentiation between Cypriots and Hellenes.

"Cyprus Hellenism was born centuries ago and has existed as a Hellenic community living on the island. The independence of Cyprus is also supported by Greece; however, the protection of the independence of Cyprus cannot prevent the preservation of the national identity of Cyprus Hellenism. The concept of Cypriotism is only a geographical and political attribute. The concept of Hellenism, on the other hand, is a national character. Arguing over whether Cypriotism or Hellenism should have the priority for the Cypriots is like arguing over whether the angels in Byzantium are male or female."

It is significant to note that these self-explanatory and revealing statements bear a striking resemblance, in tone and in content, to a speech made by the late Archbishop Makarios at Arkadi Monastery in Crete way back in 1966. Drawing a parallel between Cyprus and Crete, on the occasion of the centennial anniversary of the union of Crete with Greece, Makarios had also stressed the oneness of Greek and Cypriot Hellenism within what he called a "national body" and vowed to "deliver Cyprus to the mother's bosom", following the example of Crete. The speeches also have another thing in common on account of their intransigent tone, in that they all pledge to "continue to struggle until final victory", in disregard of the need for an early, just and peaceful solution.

/...

A/34/221
S/13297
English
Annex
Page 4

From the point of view of the Turkish Cypriot people, these statements indicate that there has been absolutely no change of heart among the Greek Cypriot people in so far as their ultra-nationalistic ambitions are concerned. However, the statements are unfortunate from another point of view, in that they set out to remove all hopes for an early and just solution of the Cyprus problem with their intransigent tone.

The Turkish Cypriot community deplores this chauvinistic and intransigent attitude as a threat to peace in Cyprus, and wishes to call upon those responsible for its creation to abandon their wrong approach in the interest of peace and justice in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 21 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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