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Letter dated 15 October 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 14 October 2020, addressed to you by Mehmet Dânâ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 44, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Feridun H. Sinirlioğlu Permanent Representative





Annex to the letter dated 15 October 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I would like to draw your kind attention to six violations of national airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus between 28 April and 30 June 2020 by Greece (see enclosure).

These provocative actions by Greece constitute a blatant violation of the sovereignty of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and pose a serious threat to the safety of international civil aviation, putting the lives of civilian passengers at risk. It is also unacceptable that the aircraft listed in the enclosure refrained from responding to the radio calls of the Ercan air control centre over the international emergency frequency (121.5 MHz), in clear violation of yet another international civil aviation rule aimed at preserving flight safety.

I wish to underline that there exist two independent, self-governing States on the island of Cyprus, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within its respective territory, and that the flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus can be carried out only with the full knowledge and permission of the relevant authorities of our State. The civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the only competent body to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services within its own national airspace.

In view of the foregoing, we strongly protest the said violations of the airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, as well as the infringements by Greece of the international air traffic rules and regulations, and call for the immediate cessation of such provocative actions. We also urge the United Nations and the international community not to condone these blatant violations that have the potential to escalate the tension in our region and jeopardize the lives of civilian passengers.

I would be grateful if you would have the present letter and its enclosure circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 44, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mehmet Dânâ Representative Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Enclosure

Date	Local time	Altitude	Aircraft type	Call sign	Country of origin	Coordinates (entry)	Coordinates (exit)
28 April 2020	1944	16,800 ft	C-130	HAF-356C	Greece	N 35°06'24", E 32°48'21"	N 35°05'30", E 32°51'47"
19 May 2020	1506	12,500 ft	C-130	HAF-356L	Greece	N 35°06'12", E 32°56'49"	N 35°10'23", E 32°42'02"
19 May 2020	1509	12,500 ft	C-130	HAF-356L	Greece	N 35°11'26", E 32°37'41"	N 35°12'03", E 32°35'49"
16 June 2020	1211	12,500 ft	C-130	HAF-356K	Greece	N 35°06'32", E 32°48'16"	N 35°05'29", E 32°51'58"
25 June 2020	1305	15,000 ft	C-130	_	Greece	N 35°05'04", E 32°49'25"	N 35°04'50", E 32°51'00"
30 June 2020	0941	13,000 ft	C-130	_	Greece	N 35°06'32", E 32°48'16"	N 35°05'29", E 32°51'58"