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Letter dated 16 December 1982 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 16 December 1982 addressed to you by Mr. Nail Atalay, the representative of the Turkish Federated State of Kibris.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. Coşkun KIRCA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 16 December 1982 from Mr. Nail Atalay
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 4 November 1982 addressed to Your Excellency by Mr. Constantine Moushoutas, which was circulated as U.N. document A/637/606 and S/15485 on 10 November 1982.

The Greek Cypriot Administration's vain attempt to deny the massive arms build-up in south Cyprus and accuse the Turkish side of preparing for an imaginary military action in the island, which is the object of Mr. Moushoutas' letter, is a typical example of trying to confuse the innocent with the guilty. The alarming rate at which the Greek Cypriots have been arming themselves is made amply evident by the Greek Cypriot press (i.e. the local "Fileleftheros" dated 25 October 1982). The Greek Cypriots cannot escape responsibility for this looming threat to peace in the island by alleging that they are engaged in "strengthening the defence of the free areas", for it is clear that the weapons being amassed are totally of an offensive nature. They include missiles, tanks, heavy machine-guns, armoured vehicles, as well as light and heavy artillery, in quantities far beyond their defense requirements.

A fairly recent exhibition of such offensive weaponry took place during a military parade on the 1st October 1982, which the Greek Cypriots celebrate as "independence day". Among the weapons exhibited were "EE-9 cascavel type" tanks from Brazil and "Milan" type missiles. In addition to the weapons already imported, "Fileleftheros" newspaper of the 25th October 1982 reports that the Greek Cypriot Administration has a standing order for 20 more tanks from Brazil, and it continues to import other weapons from a variety of sources.

Mr. Moushoutas cannot divert attention from the above facts by his "Turkish aggression" rhetoric, or by advancing the absurd argument that Turkey would be "encouraged", as he puts it, by the personal opinion of a columnist in a local Turkish Cypriot daily, "to bomb Cyprus". Nor is there any relevance in the comparison between the military power of Turkey and that of the Greek Cypriot Administration, for it is well known that the Cyprus problem is not a problem between Turkey and the

Greek Cypriot Administration. Turkey's presence in Cyprus is limited to keeping the peace in the island, preserving the bi-national independence of Cyprus, and protecting the Turkish Cypriot people against armed aggression, in accordance with the former's treaty rights and obligations.

The Greek Cypriot representative cannot seriously expect the Turkish Cypriots to abandon the protection of Turkey, or be so naive as to ignore the role Greece has been playing in Cyprus since 1963, as part of its long-standing expansionist designs in the Eastern Mediterranean. It is no coincidence that the Greek Cypriots, always too willing to serve as the instrument of Greece in these sinister plans, which are known by the term "Megalo Idea" (the Great Ideal), have recently commemorated the latter's final military defeat in 1922, following its invasion of Western Turkey during the Turkish war of Independence. The ceremonies, entitled "the disaster of Asia Minor", were organized by the Greek Cypriot municipal authorities of Nicosia and have lasted from 7 to 11 December 1982.

In the circumstances, and in view of the continuing Greek Cypriot embargo on the political, social and economic activity of the Turkish Cypriot people, it is impossible to comprehend the Greek Cypriot leadership's paying lip service to "co-operation and rapprochement" between the two communities of Cyprus. This inhuman embargo manifests itself, as it is well known, in the arrest and subsequent imprisonment by the Greek Cypriot authorities of foreign ship-masters for having called at Famagusta Port in North Cyprus, declared illegal by the Greek Cypriot Administration (at least five such cases in recent years), the prevention of the sale in foreign markets of fruits and agricultural produce originating from the north (a recent case involving the exportation of grapes to Europe by five Turkish Cypriot companies during the month of August, 1982, as a result of which the exporters have suffered great financial losses), and the active opposition of the Greek Cypriot side to the mere presentation of the Turkish Cypriot point of view in international conferences, the most recent instance being the protestations raised by the Greek Cypriot Administration over the participation, as a guest speaker, of Mr. Necati Münir Ertekün, the Advisor to the Turkish Cypriot negotiator at the intercommunal talks, in the conference of the "Academie Diplomatique Internationale" in Paris on the 30 November 1982.

At the same time the Greek Cypriot Administration, utilizing its usurped title of "the Government of Cyprus", continues to exploit international fora by having the Cyprus question included in the agenda of every such forum, such as the United Nations General Assembly, at the expense of the bi-lateral dialogue. It continues, furthermore, to exploit for propaganda purposes, even the humanitarian question of the missing persons, by having it brought once more before the Third Committee of the General Assembly, where the Turkish Cypriot representative at the Committee on Missing Persons, Dr. Latife Birgen, has been prevented by the Greek Cypriot Administration from presenting the views of the Turkish Cypriot side.

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Needless to say, a genuine rapprochement between the two peoples of Cyprus requires an immediate cessation of these hostile activities and the creation of an atmosphere conducive to negotiation and, ultimately, the finding of a peaceful solution. I regret to note, however, that the Greek Cypriot side's negative stance, which is also reflected in Mr. Moushoutas' aforementioned letter, leaves us little hope for progress in our efforts for the finding of such a solution. We earnestly hope that the Greek Cypriot side will soon come to terms with the realities, and change the dangerous course on which it has embarked, in the interest of a peaceful solution in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Nail Atalay
Representative of the
Turkish Federated State
of Kibris
