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Letter dated 5 April 1983 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 Turkey's new and well-orchestrated propaganda campaign, carried out through statements by its spokesmen and reports of the Turkish Government-controlled press, by which it is alleged that the Government of the Republic of Cyprus is encouraging and/or assisting "terrorist" activities by Armenian organizations in the free areas of the Republic of Cyprus. Indicative of this campaign is the recent ludicrous allegation of the Turkish daily Hurriyet, of 29 March 1983, "that additional personnel is employed in the diplomatic posts of the Republic of Cyprus whose mission is to assist terrorists in Europe ..., that the Minister of Interior and Defence of the Republic is directing a network for securing the co-ordination between the Greek Cypriots and the terrorists ... and that monies and arms are supplied to the Armenian terrorists through diplomatic couriers of the Republic of Cyprus in diplomatic bags ...".

Furthermore, on 24 March 1983 the same newspaper writes that "the ferocious ones amongst the Asala militants ... were taken from the Lebanese shores by special yachts provided by the Greek Cypriots, and were secretly carried out to Cyprus".

Had it not been for the fact that the Turkish press is controlled, thus voicing the views of the military régime of Ankara, these allegations would rightly earn scorn and contemptuous disregard.

Considering, however, the underlying ulterior motives and the sinister aims behind such statements of the occupying Power whose unenviable objective is to create pretexts for a new onslaught against our people, I wish to quote below the statement made by my Government's spokesman on 19 March 1983, which reads: "With reference to Turkish allegations that an 'Armenian terrorist organization' may have moved from Lebanon to Cyprus, the Government repeats that these allegations are

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altogether unfounded. It clearly and categorically stresses again that no such organization whatsoever has any base or operates in any way on the free area of the Cyprus Republic".

Furthermore, in a meeting on 26 March 1983 with the United Nations Special Representative, Mr. Hugo Gobbi, my Foreign Minister extended an invitation from the Government to the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) to carry out, as in the past, a new check at any time in the free areas with a view to verifying the falsehood of these Turkish claims.

These statements by my Government, coupled by an on-the-spot investigation already carried out by UNFICYP in the free areas of Cyprus, which proved the utterly unfounded nature of the Turkish allegations, should leave no doubt as to Ankara's true intentions of using the terrorism myth as a smoke-screen and a cover up for new well-planned aggressive actions against Cyprus.

I wish to express the earnest hope that, in view of the ominous implications inherent in the Turkish aims, Your Excellency will follow this matter closely and that all possible steps will be taken to avert calamitous developments.

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

(Signed) Constantine MOUSHOUTAS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations