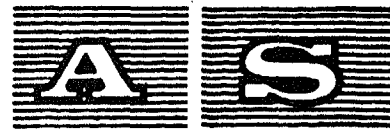


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SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirtieth year

Letter dated 24 October 1975 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 23 October 1975 addressed to you by Mr. Vedat Çelik, representative of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ilder TÜRKMEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 23 October 1975 from Mr. Vedat Çelik to the Secretary-General

I have been instructed by the President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus to refer to the letter of Ambassador Rossides, the representative of the Greek Cypriot Administration, which was circulated as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council (A/10305-S/11854) on 20 October 1975 and to inform you that the allegations contained therein are totally unfounded and have been deliberately fabricated by the Greek Cypriot Administration as a part of a wider political campaign.

I should like to point out that the Turkish Cypriot authorities have already given their consent to accept more Greek Cypriot teachers and priests into the North with their families as a part of their efforts to normalize life for the Greek Cypriots residing within the area of the Turkish Federated State. This offer, however, has been turned down by the Greek Cypriots because the Greek side wants these people to travel to the North on a daily basis without taking up residence there. It will be appreciated that this method of circulation is not feasible for the time being due to security reasons.

I should further like to point out that Greek motives on the subject are political and not humanitarian. Greek Cypriots in the North already enjoy communal rights and are living a normal life and are enjoying full freedom of movement within the region. The unfounded allegations are only aimed at misleading world public opinion.

As regards unrestricted freedom of movement between North and South Cyprus, it would be appreciated that the matter involves serious security risks and can only be solved within the framework of the final political settlement.

Needless to say, the sooner the Greek Cypriot leadership returns to the negotiation table and resumes serious negotiations with us, the sooner the problem will be solved and full freedom of movement within the island for both communities restored.

The allegation that there is a massive immigration of Turkish nationals from Turkey to Cyprus with the purpose of changing the demographic character of the island within a pre-planned partition project, is not only completely contrary to the truth but also a distortion of the actual facts. All that is taking place is that skilled technicians and workers are being imported from Turkey on a temporary basis as "guest workers" to meet the immediate needs of the economy and improve the economic lot of the Turkish Cypriots who had suffered untold discrimination and exploitation for the last 12 years at the hands of the Greek Administration. It will be recalled that all Turkish villages in the North as well as in the South had been overrun and devastated by Greek armed elements between the first and second Turkish Peace Operation last year and all economic activity in the North halted.

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In order to meet the labour shortage that exists in industry, agriculture and tourism and reactivate the economy, therefore, skilled labour is being imported from Turkey on a seasonal basis, but there is no question of these people acquiring Cypriot citizenship or taking up permanent residence in the island.

By far the biggest number of people who have come to Cyprus since August 1974 are Turkish Cypriots who had emigrated to Turkey, Great Britain and other Commonwealth countries in past years under political, administrative, social and economic pressures by the Greek Cypriot Administration and are now being given the opportunity to return to their homeland and lead a normal life under conditions of security, in accordance with the Constitution and the relevant citizenship laws of the Republic of Cyprus.

It would be useful to note that there are more than 300,000 Turks of Cypriot origin in Turkey alone who are entitled to come and settle in Cyprus under Annex "D" of the Treaty of Establishment (1960) not to mention the thousands of Turkish Cypriots in other countries. There are more Turkish Cypriots presently living abroad who are willing and ready to return to Cyprus, now that conditions of security have been restored, than we can possibly house on the island.

There is therefore no need for the Turkish Cypriot authorities to draw on Turkish nationals in order to change the population ratio on the island as alleged by the Greek side.

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Vedat ÇELİK
Representative of the
Turkish Federated State of Cyprus
