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LETTER DATED 2 JULY 1975 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 notice the following:

There is now a renewed wave of unlawful and inhuman expulsions of the indigenous Greek Cypriot people by the Turkish occupation forces in Cyprus. Seven hundred and fifty inhabitants of the region of Karpass have been thus uprooted and expelled from their homes and properties between 27 and 30 June 1975, in violation of international law, elementary human rights, the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the United Nations resolutions on Cyprus. Such arbitrary action is, furthermore, in breach of the specific agreement, by which enclaved persons would not be transferred without the consent and agreement of the two sides.

Hardly a few hours notice was given to these uprooted people, who were not even allowed to take with them any of their personal belongings, except for a small bag with their immediate necessities. An old lady, Panayiota Constantinou of Patriki, over 90 years of age, was forced to leave in spite of her fragile condition of health; she died on the way.

According to reliable evidence, some of the expelled people were forced at gunpoint to sign "petitions" for their transfer to the south.

On behalf of my Government, I wish emphatically to protest these arbitrary and illegal actions by the Turkish Government. Their taking place just before the new round of talks, scheduled for this month, is indicative of the negative posture of Ankara towards these talks.

A further aggravating circumstance of this uprooting of Greek Cypriot inhabitants from their homes in the Karpass region is that the neighbouring area of Famagusta is beginning to be massively colonized by Turks from the mainland of Turkey and from the south of Cyprus, in a manner bringing out the criminal purpose of changing by force the demographic character of the island.

This is a matter that should be given serious consideration by the Security Council. Particularly in view of the fact that, whereas General Assembly resolution 3212 (XXIX), unanimously adopted and endorsed by Security Council resolution 365 (1975), calls for urgent measures for the return of all the refugees to their

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homes in safety, the very opposite process is carried out, through still more people being uprooted from their homes and lands and rendered destitute refugees - victims of Turkey's nefarious objective of partition.

I would be grateful if this letter were to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Zenon ROSSIDES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations
