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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON DEVELOPMENTS IN CYPRUS FOR THE PERIOD 25 AUGUST TO 8 SEPTEMBER 1974

Observance of the cease-fire

1. Nicosia district. Turkish pressure by forward movement in the north-west part of Nicosia south of the Nicosia Golf Club (AMR WD 3193) 1/ was halted by UNFICYP negotiations which resulted in Turkish withdrawal from a portion of that area. There have been minor violations of the cease-fire along the Green Line, and heavy firing was reported from 2000 to 2200 hours on 5 September. UNFICYP arranged a local cease-fire which is being observed by both sides in that area.
2. Famagusta district. Turkish patrolling in strength has been reported from the cease-fire line of 16 August 1974 to the Sovereign Base Area boundary, particularly in the villages of Kalopsidha, Akhryitou, Makrasyka and Athna. Turkish forces claim that this is part of the area under their control. UNFICYP has established observation posts in these villages. Most of the residents of the area have taken refuge in the Sovereign Base Area of Dhekelia.
3. Lefka district. Turkish forces have occupied the village of Galini and have now linked up with the Limnitis enclave. On 5 September, the local Turkish commander informed UNFICYP that National Guard positions west of Limnitis must be evacuated, failing which Turkish forces would take action.
4. All other districts have been quiet.
5. UNFICYP now has a presence in 36 locations in the area of Turkish control, and 93 locations in areas outside Turkish control. Nineteen of the locations in the latter areas are in Turkish Cypriot or mixed villages. Most other Turkish Cypriot and mixed villages are also patrolled daily.

Economic and humanitarian activities

6. UNFICYP continues to support the humanitarian relief programme in co-operation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and local agencies. During the period a total of 67 truckloads of relief supplies

1/ AMR - approximate map reference.

were delivered to villages, 63 to Turkish Cypriots and 4 to Greek Cypriots. From 2 August to 7 September UNFICYP delivered a total of 184 loads, or the equivalent of 900 tons of food. Transport is also provided for the movement to distribution areas of supplies from international sources received by UNHCR from Akrotiri. Allocation of UNFICYP vehicles for the supply of goods will be increased to 8 per day from 9 September 1974.

7. The inhabitants of three Turkish Cypriot villages in Larnaca district left those villages on their own initiative and moved to Pergamos. Large numbers of Greek Cypriot refugees moved farther south to the Ormidhia area. A total of 73 Greek Cypriots were handed over to UNFICYP in Famagusta by local Turkish forces. They were evacuated to Ormidhia.

8. Approximately 500 Greek Cypriots were captured on 26 August by Turkish forces in the Karpass area. United Nations humanitarian teams with ICRC and UNHCR representatives visited this area on 2 and 6 September 1974. The biggest problem is the lack of electricity as a result of severe damage to the transformer at Lefkoniko. The inhabitants are also hampered in the harvesting of the tobacco crop, since most of the young men have been detained.

9. There have been some problems with the water supply system in Nicosia. Owing to pumping difficulties at the source of the supply at Morphou, the water pressure has been inadequate. There have been complaints from the Turkish Cypriot side that the National Guard has been interfering with the water flow from Marathasa Dam (AMR VD 8580) and the Kalizes Dam (AMR VD 8078), and that this has affected crop irrigation in Lefka. UNFICYP investigations are in progress.

10. Electricity supplies have been restored at Pyroi and Kaimakli (a suburb of Nicosia).

11. It is reported that thousands of untended pigs are dying in the northern area, which is likely to create health hazards. UNFICYP continues efforts to resolve this problem.

Investigation of alleged atrocities

12. Allegations continue to be made by both sides about atrocities and inhuman treatment. Wherever possible UNFICYP has investigated those allegations and has continued to make available to both sides, on a confidential basis, the results of its investigations.

13. During the period under review, the Greek Cypriot side complained of seven cases of atrocities alleged to have been committed by Turks or Turkish Cypriots, involving the death of 26 persons. In four cases UNCIVPOL was able to make a partial investigation.

14. The Turkish Cypriots claim that approximately 90 persons were killed by the other side and that there are still 40 to 80 Turkish Cypriot villagers from Tokhni (Larnaca district) missing. According to a witness, who was made available to UNFICYP, all those missing were taken to the vicinity of Ayia Phyla (Limassol district) and killed by Greek Cypriots.

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15. The National Guard and the Cyprus police have denied permission for UNFICYP to investigate the above allegation on the grounds that, in their view, UNFICYP should not only investigate atrocities allegedly committed by their side but should also be permitted to investigate atrocities which allegedly occurred in areas controlled by Turkish Cypriots and the Turkish Army. UNFICYP has so far not been able to complete investigations into atrocities allegedly committed by Turkish Cypriots or Turkish forces in areas under Turkish control. This matter has been brought to the attention of the Turkish Cypriot authorities. In particular, UNFICYP has proposed to the Turkish Cypriot leadership that UNCIVPOL investigations may proceed in Mia Milea (Nicosia district), Elea (Kyrenia district) and Prastio and Styllos (Famagusta district).

16. In Maratha (Famagusta district), 84 to 86 bodies were found, claimed to be those of Turkish Cypriots from the villages of Maratha and Sandalaris. UNFICYP was not in a position to identify any of the bodies, but Turkish Cypriot villagers present during the exhumation said they identified 30, all of them former inhabitants of those two villages.

17. The Greek Cypriot authorities announced that they were ready to agree to an independent investigation by the United Nations and ICRC in the presence of an observer of the Government and of the Turkish side and that similar independent investigations into alleged atrocities should be carried out on both sides. For their part, the Turkish Cypriot leadership announced that it was agreeable to such an investigation in Maratha. There has been no sequel to these announcements.

Meeting between Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktash

18. On 6 September 1974, at the UNFICYP conference area in the Ledra Palace Hotel, Acting President Clerides and Vice-President Denktash discussed a number of humanitarian matters with the assistance of Mr. Luis Weckmann-Munoz, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and other United Nations officials, including a representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. A representative of ICRC was also present. In view of the expressed willingness of the parties concerned to comply fully with the humanitarian principles set forth in the Geneva conventions, it was agreed at the meeting:

(a) To complete the lists of prisoners and detainees and to transmit them without delay to ICRC;

(b) To set up immediately a scheme for the general release of prisoners and detainees;

(c) To give urgent priority in the scheme to the release of sick and wounded prisoners and detainees and to prisoners and detainees under 18 and over 50 years of age;

(d) To exchange lists of missing persons and to make every effort to trace them. Relatives of missing persons were requested to contact the ICRC offices and to give particulars;

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(e) To give every assistance to the aged and infirm, Greek and Turkish Cypriots, who have found themselves isolated as a result of the hostilities. Note was taken with satisfaction and appreciation that the system of communication between persons who have found themselves isolated, set up and operated by ICRC, is functioning smoothly and efficiently. Over 60,000 messages have thus far been transmitted.

19. It was agreed to hold regular weekly meetings. The next meeting was scheduled for 1000 hours on 13 September, at the Ledra Palace United Nations conference area, but the date was subsequently advanced to 11 September.

20. At the end of the meeting, Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktash had a private exchange of views on the refugee problem and other important issues.
