

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/11469
27 August 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 27 AUGUST 1974 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
GREECE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Turkish Government has been embarking upon an endeavour to divert the attention of international public opinion from the atrocities committed by the Turks in Cyprus.

To this end, it inaugurated a campaign of slander against the very victims of Turkey's aggression, the Greek-Cypriots.

One of the great slanders which the Turkish authorities contrived was the so-called "discovery" of a grave with "57 bodies" or, according to another version, "the bodies of all the inhabitants of the village Aloa".

The following paragraph of the United Nations press release CYP 771 dated 21 August 1974 gives some idea of the "truthfulness" of the Turkish allegations:

"In response to a question about a grave in the village of Aloa north-west of Famagusta, the Chief Information Officer of UNFICYP stated that UNFICYP police were present yesterday and had seen five bodies in the grave. The UNFICYP police requested permission to investigate further but were informed by the Turkish authorities that that was not necessary as they had completed their investigation".

It is obvious that without an impartial investigation no allegation could be internationally confirmed since the official report of the United Nations spokesman leaves without reply questions concerning the number of the victims, the circumstances of their death as well as their very nationality.

It is also evident that, had the above allegation been true, the Turkish authorities would welcome whole-heartedly an international investigation by the UNFICYP police.

Finally, it should be noted that the statement contained in the annex of Ambassador Olcay's letter of 22 August 1974, according to which "the investigation is still going on" runs counter to the UNFICYP officer's statement quoted above and dated one day before the letter from the Permanent Representative of Turkey. According to this statement, the Turkish authorities considered as "not necessary"

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the UNFICYP demand for further investigation "as they (the Turks) had completed their investigation".

I would be grateful, Your Excellency, if you could kindly have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Denis CARAYANNIS
Ambassador
