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LETTER DATED 18 SEPTEMBER 1974 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CYPRUS  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency's attention further evidence of blatant violations of international moral and legal principles coming in the wake of Turkey's illegal occupation of 40 per cent of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus and the expulsion of its indigenous Greek Cypriot population.

1. Mr. Denktash, misled by the seeming tolerance so far shown by the international community to the above illegal acts, brazenly said on 9 September 1974 that the property of the 200,000 Greek Cypriots within territory seized by the Turkish invading forces will be confiscated and will be leased to Turkish Cypriot co-operatives and individuals.

2. Concurrently, the mayor of the town of Mersin (in Turkey) announced that 5,000 workers were being sent to Cyprus to collect and package the citrus crop of the orchards cultivated by and belonging to the forcibly expelled Greek Cypriots, for the benefit of the Turks of Cyprus.

3. He further stated on the same occasion that his "Turkish Cypriot administration" had begun to issue its own travel documents and that "mainland Turkish money would become legal tender in the island soon".

Mr. Denktash also demanded that the Turkish Cypriots living in the part of Cyprus under the control of the Government of Cyprus be removed and permanently resettled in the northern (occupied) part of the island. In supporting this demand, he invoked "the right of every person to move to a place of his choice". However, he made it clear that, in his view, only Turkish Cypriots should enjoy this right. He has no intention of allowing the 200,000 Greek Cypriots to return to their ancestral homes and lands in the occupied territories from which they were forcibly expelled (in fact, several were shot at sight when they tried to return).

Even if all the Turks of Cyprus were resettled in the above territories, they would not comprise a majority unless the illegally expelled Greek Cypriot population are denied their inalienable right to return to their homes and lands by the force of Turkish arms.

S/11515  
English  
Page 2

Within such concepts of manifest illegality through the use of force, Mr. Denktash is now operating as the virtual representative of Turkey's invading forces in Cyprus.

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

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

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