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LETTER DATED 6 NOVEMBER 1974 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 attention and to strongly protest the following violations of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and of international law committed by the Turkish invading forces and their instruments in the occupied territory.

1. The Church of St. George of Trikomou has been arbitrarily taken over by the Turkish invasion forces and converted into a mosque.
2. Turkish soldiers entered Ayia Marina Church, east of Dherynia village and after smashing the icons and the pews, set fire to them.
3. The invading forces are illegally issuing Turkish identity cards with different colours for Greek Cypriots in the Turkish occupied area, the latter being pressured to seek refuge in Southern Cyprus, or to acquire Turkish identity cards.
4. They are furthermore illegally issuing title-deeds to property. A characteristic example is the reported case of an Englishwoman who, having visited her house in Ayiou Epihtitou, found a Turkish Cypriot settled therein. This Turkish Cypriot produced to her a title-deed issued by a so-called "Land Registry Office" in Kyrenia.
5. In addition, the Turkish occupation forces commit the following acts:
 - A. Steal the agricultural produce of killed or uprooted Greek Cypriots who are deprived of means of subsistence;
 - B. Steal and transport to Turkey household effects, furniture, machines, church icons, private motor-vehicles, trucks, tractors, animals, etc.;
 - C. Occupy Greek Cypriots' shops and houses;
 - D. Illegally take over Greek Cypriot hotels.

Not only that these developments are contradictory to the Turkish Government's professed purpose for a peaceful solution, but also every such additional Turkish action creates conditions that reduce any hope of finding a political solution.

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I would be glad if Your Excellency were to circulate this letter as a Security Council document.

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