



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/38/283  
S/15841  
23 June 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Thirty-eighth session  
Item 41 of the preliminary list\*  
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 21 June 1983 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus  
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to our letter addressed to you on 17 March 1983 and circulated on 21 March 1983 as a document of the General Assembly and Security Council (A/37/794-S/15648), informing of the "confiscation" of 32 houses of Maronite Cypriots in the villages of Asomatos, Karpasha and Kormakitis, in the area of Cyprus under Turkish military occupation, I have the honour, upon instructions from my Government, to denounce the new Turkish actions directed against members of the same community. This is indicative of the Turkish policy of expulsion of all non-Turks from that area, with the aim of creating a separate "Turkish State".

The Turkish occupation forces have illegally begun levelling a number of houses in Asomatos with the purpose of forcing the remaining thirty-one (31) inhabitants of the village (out of the 750 prior to the Turkish invasion of 1974) to abandon their homes. The levelling of these houses is confirmed in paragraph 30 of your report of 1 June 1983 on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/15812 and Corr.1).

Your Excellency may note that Asomatos village is among the three (3) Maronite villages where homes have been "confiscated" under requisition orders of the Turkish army for housing its officers. It should be expected, therefore, that the Turkish army will attempt to expel all the indigenous inhabitants from these villages.

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The long-term plan of the Turkish army to demolish and level Asomatos for the purpose of turning it into a military camp for the invasion forces started being implemented some three years ago with the illegal levelling of 15 houses in that village. Since then, facts have proved that Turkey has the undeclared intention of rendering life impossible for the remaining Maronites of Asomatos and of creating such unbearable conditions that the last inhabitants of the village should resort to a desperate exodus as the only solution to their misfortunes.

The harassment of Maronite Cypriots by the Turkish occupation forces is nothing new, and I am sure you are well aware of all the calamities which have befallen them since Turkey invaded the island in 1974. For reasons of brevity, I refer only to document A/34/594-S/13572 of 18 October 1979 and to the annexed memorandum of the representative of the Maronite community in the House of Representatives of Cyprus.

In strongly protesting these illegal actions by the Turkish forces of occupation, I would request Your Excellency to take all measures possible to protect the members of the Maronite Cypriot community and avert any actions which would further aggravate the tense situation prevailing in the occupied area.

I would be grateful if Your Excellency would circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 41 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Constantine MOUSHOUTAS  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of  
Cyprus to the United Nations

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