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LETTER DATED 13 JUNE 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CYPRUS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to refer to the further letter addressed to Your Excellency by the representative of Turkey on 10 June 1969 (S/9243), in regard to the Human Rights Seminar in Cyprus.

This letter is an interesting illustration of the ease and unconcern with which the shoe is put on the other foot. He calls "conciliatory" his unwarranted attack upon Cyprus and "bitter recrimination" my scrupulously factual reply.

The Turkish representative appears to regret "the return to acrimonious exchange of letters", forgetting, however, that he sought and initiated it. The regret is fully shared by us, but the responsibility is wholly his.

We can understand Ambassador Eralp's anxiety to show that his negative attempt to frustrate the Seminar received encouragement from the "highest representatives of the United Nations in Cyprus" by their expressions of misgivings on the Seminar. But his allegations are not borne out by facts and fail on scrutiny.

As to the Permanent Representatives to the Security Council whom he tries to enlist, if they wished to express themselves on the subject surely they would have used their own channels and not the representative of Turkey as their spokesman.

We are, however, appreciative of the Turkish representative's change of approach towards the Seminar in Cyprus, and welcome the announcement that his Government will accept the invitation and will participate in a constructive spirit, thereby also contributing to the improvement of the climate in Cyprus.

Your Excellency is kindly requested to have this communication circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

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