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LETTER DATED 10 DECEMBER 1966 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to forward herewith the text of a message addressed to Your Excellency by Dr. Fazil Küçük, Vice-President of the Republic of Cyprus, regarding the Turkish-Cypriot Community's views in connexion with the situation in the island on the eve of the forthcoming Security Council meeting on the question of Cyprus.

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

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Orhan ERALP
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative
of Turkey to the United Nations

Nicosia, 7 December 1966

On the occasion of the meeting of the Security Council to consider the extension of the mandate of UNFICYP, I thought it incumbent upon me to address this communication to you with a view to advising members of the Security Council of the situation in Cyprus as viewed by and as affecting the Turkish-Cypriot Community.

Recently the Greek side has embarked upon reinforcing their fortifications or building new reinforced positions around Turkish inhabited areas especially in Larnaca and in the Kyrenia range in defiance of UNFICYP's counsel to the contrary. Furthermore, it has now been disclosed that arms and armoured equipment are being secretly imported into the Island from abroad under the ridiculous pretext of arming the Greek police. It is interesting to note that these arms and equipment (which include armoured tanks, heavy mortars and bazookas) are of a kind which are commonly used for military aggression and not for policing. All these activities have taken place at a time when peaceful endeavours are being made with a view to finding a solution to the Cyprus problem, by negotiations as directed by the Security Council.

The economic blockade imposed on the Turkish Community for some time past has lately been intensified despite the compromising attitude adopted by the Turkish side in the delivery of land records and of stamps worth over £100,000. Though the list of prohibited materials for the Turks is purported to include some thirty-nine items in reality the items which are not allowed to enter the Turkish sector are much greater in number and vary according to the whims of armed Greeks at various check points. As stated in para. 128 of Your Excellency's report to the Security Council (S/7001 of 10 December 1965) this practice has tended to undermine the value of the list as a guide to what may be brought into the Turkish-Cypriot areas. The most recent example is the restriction imposed on the purchase of petrol by Turkish drivers even for vehicles which are licensed by Greeks. Under the banner of building materials many items of goods and merchandise (which are necessary for the requirements of non-combattant population) including even straw,

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nails, glass for window panes, hardboards, are being refused entry into the Turkish villages and sectors and are sometimes unlawfully confiscated at gun point. Harassments at barricades such as undue and undignified searches, beating up and insulting of Turks are still common occurrences. To these, unlawful arrests on trumped up charges have been added as a means of terrorizing Turks who, out of necessity, have to make use of the roads. The purchase of certain other goods such as oil, fertilizers, chemicals etc., has arbitrarily been subjected to permits which are issued only after numerous and lengthy formalities. All these are vindictively intended to make life for the Turks unbearable.

The refusal of the Greeks to implement the Ktima Agreement and thereby keeping up the tension in Ktima (vide S-7001, para. 46) and preventing a good many Turkish families from returning to their houses has already been reported to you. With the same tenacity the Greeks have not yet vacated the terrorist nest which they established in the village of Arsos under the banner of police station.

All the above activities, especially the fact that the Greeks are importing heavy arms and armoured equipment for the use of a force which has already been used for aggression against the Turkish Community in all parts of the Island, are clear indications that the Greek-Cypriot authorities are planning to return to their original mischievous schemes. The object being to suppress and eventually subjugate the Turkish-Cypriot Community by force of arms under the ludicrous pretext of enforcing law and order.

Needless to say that all these have been perpetrated in defiance of the resolutions of the Security Council, as the Greek leaders in Cyprus have all along been preparing and taking such piecemeal actions as are clearly intended to worsen and exacerbate the situation in Cyprus. By intensifying this activity at the present time they anticipate, and indeed they are trying to bring about, the failure of the dialogue between at least the two of the interested parties, i.e. the Turkish and Greek Governments.

Under the prevailing circumstances, this is the only means through which a peaceful settlement to our problem is possible. Otherwise the threat to peace is so great that in my submission it is advisable to take all the necessary precautions now before it becomes too late.

S/7631
English
Page 4

I shall be grateful if this communication is circulated as a Security Council document.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Dr. F. KUCHUK
Vice-President of the Republic
of Cyprus
