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LETTER DATED 7 MARCH 1966 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The adverse impact of the joint communiqué issued in Athens on 2 February 1966 by Archbishop Makarios, Head of the Greek Cypriot Administration, and the Prime Minister of Greece, appears to have been so far-reaching that Ambassador Rossides has felt obliged to resort to a frantic effort to gloss over its crucial points by advancing unfounded charges against Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot Community in his letters (S/7138) and (S/7155).

It will be recalled that in the joint communiqué it was declared, inter alia, that:

- (a) "The two Governments reject any solution excluding Enosis...".
- (b) "Both Governments... indicated the necessity of the co-operation and spiritual unity among all Greeks for the achievement of the national goal."

It has thus become clear to everybody that the sole objective of the common Greek Cypriot and Greek policy is the annexation of Cyprus to Greece. Ambassador Rossides might be under the impression that this fact, which had to come to light through the force of circumstances as the denouement of the Greek melodrama approached, can be shrouded in confusion if stale charges were to be made against Turkey.

The Turkish Government's position on the question of Cyprus has been explained in clear and unequivocal terms in the Political Committee of the twentieth session. This position can be summed up as follows: Turkey is not seeking the partitioning of the island. It is also adamantly opposed to Enosis. This is a commitment undertaken by the treaties creating the independent State of Cyprus. Greece and the Republic of Cyprus also are under the same obligation. Greece's and the Greek Cypriot Administration's renunciation of this obligation, which is now

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officially confirmed by the joint communique of 2 February, is the basic reason for the dispute. Turkey is in favour of the independence of the Republic of Cyprus under conditions which would safeguard the maintenance of this independence.

Ambassador Rossides has quoted a number of statements attributed to the Turkish Prime Minister and other Turkish statesmen as well as to the leaders of the Turkish Cypriot Community in support of his spurious allegations against Turkey and the Cypriot Turks. It was no surprise that he has cmitted the mention of the occasion which prompted these statements which in essence were aimed at countering the faits accomplis perpetrated by the Greek Cypriots and Greeks in their unilateral and arbitrary attempt to annex Cyprus to Greece. Actually, Ambassador Rossides did not have to dig. as he did, into the distant past for his quotations. Prime Minister of Turkey had made a statement on 4 February 1966, soon after the publication of the notorious joint communiqué, similar in content and firmness to the one quoted by Ambassador Rossides. To quote that statement would have highlighted the grave character of the Greek and Greek Cypriot high-handedness. The Greek Cypriot representative has, therefore, apparently chosen to use it on a future occasion, when the memory of the joint communiqué would have faded into oblivion to make it impossible for the readers to recall that the Turkish Prime Minister's remarks were prompted by another Greek and Greek Cypriot attempt at fait accompli.

In the same vein, Ambassador Rossides quotes from an editorial which appeared in the Turkish Cypriot newspaper "Halkin Sesi" on 9 August 1965. The same newspaper published another editorial on 14 February 1966, to the effect that the Turkish Cypriots were determined not to give even an inch of their land to anybody and not to yield to Greek domination. Again this editorial of the Turkish Cypriot newspaper, which in all probability will be exploited by Ambassador Rossides in the future as an evidence of the so-called Turkish Cypriot intransigence, has been deliberately overlooked simply because it is too recent and it might conceivably be possible for the reader to discover that it was written in reply to a statement of the Greek Cypriot Minister of Interior made on 12 February 1966, and reported in the Cyprus Mail of 13 February 1966, in which Minister Yorgadjis is reported to have declared that "the Greek Cypriots will continue their struggle until the dreams and aspirations of Enosis of all Cypriot (Greek) generations become true without the cession of even an inch of Cyprus soil."

As for Ambassador Ressides! reference to a map published as a cover of one of the bulletins of the Turkish Press Office in Washington, it can only be dismissed as undue flippancy in a grave matter. The map in question was a reproduction from a booklet published in Washington, a copy of which is attached to the present letter. As it can be clearly seen, the colcur and designation of Cyprus are distinct from Turkey and similar to those of other surrounding independent countries. It was obviously technically impossible to duplicate such a fine cartographic distinction in a merely mimeographic bulletin. The intentions of Governments should not be sought in imperfections of reproduction but in solemn communiqués such as the notorious "Encsis" communiqué of Athens, of 2 February 1966.

The Turkish Government's position on the question of Cyprus is clear and has been stated above once again in unequivocal terms. Let Greece and Greek Cypriots come out and state in similar terms that they are in favour of a solution which will safeguard the continued independence of the Republic of Cyprus. Semantics alone are not sufficient for this purpose.

At a time when the most responsible authorities of Greece and the Greek Cypriot Administration sclemnly declare in their joint communiqué of 2 February 1966 that no solution which excludes Encsis will be accepted, and when Archbishop Makarios declares to the Press that the road he is following leads to Enosis as reported in the Cyprus Mail of 5 February 1966, Ambassador Rossides should not take it as a personal offence if we place credence in President Makarios' statements rather than his protestations of dedication to the United Nations Charter, integrity of Cyprus and unity of its people.

It is the earnest hope of the Turkish Government that the members of the United Nations will not be misled by such spurious protestations in view of the unprevaricated truth that has come cut in the joint communiqué.

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

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

