

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/7194
11 March 1966

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 10 MARCH 1966 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GREECE
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In his letter of 8 March 1966 (document S/7186), the Permanent Representative of Turkey took up again a theme he had already treated at considerable length in his two previous letters, namely, the communiqué issued at Athens on 2 February 1966, at the conclusion of talks held between the President of the Republic of Cyprus and the Royal Greek Government.

After laboriously distorting both the spirit and the contents of the communiqué, which was no more than a reiteration of the two Governments' determination to seek and work for a just solution of the Cyprus problem by peaceful means, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Turkish Representative's letter now attempts to distort the very essence and nature of the dispute on Cyprus.

I had confined myself until now to circulating to Missions of the United Nations the text of the communiqué of 2 February 1966, and had refrained from engaging in correspondence on unfounded Turkish allegations, in the hope that Turkey might find her way to constructive attitudes and approaches, and put an end to sterile polemics.

But I am afraid I would now be failing in my duties as a representative of a State Member of our Organization if I were to disregard the blunt misrepresentation of facts and the contempt shown by Turkey to resolutions of the most prominent organs of the United Nations.

In the Turkish letter under reference the "basic reason for the dispute" on Cyprus is ascribed to the alleged renunciation by Greece and the Republic of Cyprus of commitments undertaken by the treaties which established the independent State of Cyprus.

In the first place, Greece has never denounced these treaties nor does she deny them a formal value today. Greece has said and maintains that these treaties

have become outdated by subsequent events; that they have proved to be inoperative and must be replaced by other arrangements which should better correspond to the real needs of the situation in Cyprus. It might be of interest to recall here that Turkey also has publicly stated that these treaties are susceptible to revision.

Furthermore, it has been made abundantly clear in the twentieth session of the General Assembly and has been recorded in its resolution 2077 (XX) that the real issue in Cyprus is that of the independence of its people. The "full sovereignty and complete independence" of the Republic of Cyprus have been solemnly recognized and reaffirmed by the General Assembly.

The now attempt by the Permanent Representative of Turkey to confuse the issue is so patent that it will, I am sure, prove vain and to no avail. The Greek Government has publicly stated in the twentieth session of the General Assembly that what it is seeking is the full and unfettered independence of Cyprus. The fact that Turkey, while stating that she also favours independence, considers her statement as having a different meaning, can only be explained by the simple hypothesis that in Turkey's vocabulary the word "independence" is not taken in its real sense; it is simply being used as a cover to conceal unavowed selfish aims, apparently incompatible with the principles of the Charter. If further proof were needed, it can easily be found in the contemptuous attitude taken by the Turkish delegation throughout the debate before the General Assembly and in its insistence on Turkey's alleged right of intervention in Cyprus.

Lastly, I am taking note of the explanation offered by the Permanent Representative of Turkey in regard to the map published by the Turkish Press Office in Washington and especially of the revision of document S/7186 which at last sets the record almost straight.

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

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Alexis S. LIATIS
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Greece
to the United Nations
