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LETTER DATED 8 SEPTEMBER 1964 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF GREECE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to communicate to you below the text of a note verbale which the Royal Embassy of Greece at Ankara addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey on 29 August 1964 in protest against the attacks made on the Chancellery of the Embassy, its Press Bureau at Istanbul and the Consulate of Greece at Izmir, and against the lack of police protection and the impossibility of communicating with the authorities on that occasion:

"The Royal Embassy of Greece presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and wishes to renew its sharpest protests against the outrageous events which have just been repeated in front of its premises this afternoon.

"Despite the categorical assurances given to this Embassy yesterday that the attacks on the dignity and calm of this diplomatic mission would not be renewed, a group of demonstrators consisting of about 150 young people broke through to the vicinity of its premises at 6.20 p.m. and, in the presence of considerable military and police forces, broke the windows - which had just been replaced - and again raised the Turkish flag on the Chancellery balcony. In addition the demonstrators uttered the same very grave insults to the Kingdom as yesterday.

"Under the eyes of the forces of law and order, a few demonstrators tried, fortunately without success, to break down the entrance door in order to clear the way into the Embassy for the rest.

"The lives of the Embassy staff were in immediate danger.

"While these extremely serious events were in progress, the Embassy made several vain attempts to reach the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and even His Excellency the Prime Minister, by telephone.

"The Embassy also wishes to lodge a most vehement protest at the attack on the building which houses its Press Bureau at Istanbul. Early this afternoon a crowd of demonstrators threw stones at the facade of the building, broke the front windows and defaced with stones and iron bars the board fixed to the entrance bearing the inscription 'Royal Embassy of Greece - Press Bureau'.

"Furthermore, at about 9 p.m. this evening, groups of demonstrators approached the premises of the Consulate of the Kingdom at Izmir and, in the absence of any police or other protection, gave vent to the same attacks and outrages and uttered the same insults as had been perpetrated at Ankara and Istanbul.

"The Consul of Greece at Izmir, under a hail of stones and large pebbles, noticed a few demonstrators carrying burning pieces of wood with which they apparently intended to set fire to the Chancellery. A fire was just averted in time by the arrival of the fire brigade. It should be noted in this connexion that while these demonstrations, which lasted more than twenty minutes, were in progress the Consul of Greece tried as a matter of urgency to reach the local Turkish authorities by telephone. His efforts, just like those of the Embassy, were in vain.

"The Embassy wishes to protest sharply at this inexplicable omission on the part of the security services of the Vilayet of Izmir.

"Faced with such repeated and extremely grave events, the Royal Embassy, on the instructions of its Government, begs the Government of Turkey, through the Department of Foreign Affairs, to inform it whether the Government of Turkey is prepared and feels able to guarantee the dignity of this diplomatic mission and effective protection for the Hellenic diplomatic and consular personnel in Turkey, for Government property and for the private property of all the staff, against such attacks. Otherwise the Royal Hellenic Government will be obliged to draw the necessary conclusions on the matter.

"The Royal Embassy of Greece has the honour, etc."

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Dimitri S. BITSIOS  
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Greece  
to the United Nations

