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NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In view of its nature and implications, the Secretary-General deems it advisable to bring to the attention of the members of the Security Council the following memorandum which was submitted to him by the Permanent Representative of Turkey on 10 September 1964:

"1. At the time when Turkey agreed to discontinue air intervention at the Kokkina-Mansoura area, Turkey had been given to understand that the Greek Cypriot aggressors would withdraw to the positions they occupied prior to August 5, that the safety of the Turkish Cypriots in that area would be secured and that the inhuman economic blockade applied against the Turks of Cyprus would be lifted.

"2. Representations have been regularly made to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in order to provide him with the information received by Turkish Government concerning the wretched conditions in which the Turks of Cyprus are living ever since the cease-fire on the whole island territory, requesting the Secretary-General to do all he could in order to bring about a speedy amelioration of those conditions. The situation, nevertheless, remains grave. Recently similar restrictions were applied to Famagusta and Larnaca.

"The most typical and tragic insistence of the application of the economic blockade exists in the Kokkina area where large numbers of Turkish Cypriots are surrounded on a narrow strip of land.

"The village of Kokkina and the inhabitants of four or five neighbouring villages who have sought refuge in Kokkina are in danger of starving to death. Some of these beleaguered Turks who are in urgent need of food, clothing and other necessities of life, are sheltered in caves. The besieged inhabitants of this narrow strip have no communication with Nicosia or other Turkish villages. The inhabitants of Kokkina are in need of three tons of food supplies a day.

"3. Under these circumstances, Turkey will undertake to deliver food supplies and other necessities to these besieged people within the next two or three days. The United Nations will be informed of the days on which such deliveries will be made.

"If an attempt is made to prevent such deliveries, clear evidence will have been established as to an intention to starve these people to death, and further and very grave proof of the aggressive intention of the Greek Cypriot leadership will have been unveiled.

"Under such circumstances, the Turkish Government will be compelled to take appropriate action in order to defend its rights and carry out the humanitarian duties which devolve upon it.

"The Turkish Government has no doubt that the provision of food and the sustenance of life which is the first and foremost human right is also among the duties of the UNFICYP, under the resolution of 4 March.

"4. Various information to the effect that the economic blockade is eased, relieved or is about to be relieved have proved inexact. The Turkish Government shall continue to provide the United Nations with any information it will receive in the future on that score. But, as it has been underlined above, at present the most urgent and dangerous situation today is in the Kokkina area. There is neither time nor possibility to await, as far as this area is concerned, the materialization of promises with regard to the lifting of the blockade.

"5. The Turkish Government agrees that the UNFICYP may control the deliveries to be made to Kokkina in order to ascertain that they consist of vital provisions and not of military equipment, weapons and ammunition.

"6. As the Turkish Government has always stressed, it is prepared to make every effort to find a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem. Yet the primary condition of peace is that until such a solution is arrived at, the Turkish community in Cyprus should not be the victim of aggression. There is no doubt that the application of an inhuman blockade constitutes no less aggression than armed attack. The economic blockade applied against the Turks of Cyprus has brought the tension on the island to breaking point.

"The Turkish Government hopes that the UNFICYP will lend its effective assistance as proposed in order that this urgent and humanitarian aid may be carried out without serious complications."

