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LETTER DATED 3 MARCH 1965 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF TURKEY ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

An element of hope and relief rarely appears in the tragedy of Cyprus. This sometimes comes in the form of an expression of condemnation and disgust by men of integrity and conscience among the Greeks of Cyprus who raise their voices against the unspeakable atrocities committed by the insurgent Greek Cypriot leadership against their Turkish compatriots in their relentless course towards Greek expansionism in Cyprus. One such instance was brought to Your Excellency's attention in my letter dated 20 January 1965 (S/6158). Recently, Mr. N.C. Lanitis, perhaps the most influential Greek Cypriot outside Government circles, strongly condemned the present Greek Cypriot administration and accused it of full responsibility for the present situation in the island in a statement he gave to the journal of the new "Greek Brotherhood" appearing in London.

In his statement which is quoted by the 15 February 1965 edition of the English language "News Bulletin" published by the Cypriot Turkish Community in Nicosia, Mr. Lanitis is reported to have reiterated that the lack of goodwill on the part of the Greek Cypriot administration was responsible for the failure of the Zurich and London Agreements. In his words: "The implementation of these Agreements depends on the extent of the goodwill of those who would apply them. These Agreements made us the masters of our country, but have not been implemented loyally. However, we Greeks, must secure their implementation, in order to fulfil our obligations as the majority community. We have so far acted in complete disregard of our responsibilities. We have failed to implement all the Articles of the Zurich and London Agreements. We must not forget that we put our signature on these Agreements, and must therefore accord the right of the Turkish Community."

Recalling that he had warned of the gravity of the situation as far back as in March 1962, Mr. Lanitis goes on to say:

"I stated then that if we continued the same policy as that of the previous two years, we would ground the State ship. Believing that Enosis would materialize, we have unfortunately wrecked the ship. However, we all now realize that Enosis has never been dragged so far away as it is today. We have formed a united front against the Turkish Community, and the whole world has thus turned against us. We have jeopardized the position of Greece in the NATO Alliance, as well as at the United Nations. We have smeared the clean name of Hellenism, and have accomplished the final separation of the Turkish and Greek communities. Had we used our minds instead of our emotions, the result would have entirely been the opposite. But we have failed to respect our signature and chose to forget our promises."

Underlining the failure of the Greek Cypriot leadership's policy, Mr. Lanitis said, "the Cyprus Agreements have failed, because we have departed from the road of wisdom. It is not, however, too late to save ourselves from disaster. We must end this unnecessary military action against the Turks. If we disarm, the Turks will do the same. Let us cease all lawlessness, return to constitutional order, and treat the Turks as our partners."

I shall be grateful if Your Excellency would have this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

Please accept, etc.

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